

Bold initiative by Mr Murray wins the day for social contract

Mr Len Murray succeeded yesterday in persuading TUC militants to withdraw their challenge to the social contract. The engineering union abstained from the virtually unanimous vote that followed.

The Government can thus go into an election backed by united trade union commitment to wage restraint. Mr Hugh Scanlon said later that he had not wanted the engineers to be blamed as saboteurs of Labour's election chances.

Militant engineers abandon challenge

From Paul Routledge
Labour Editor

Brighton
A politically daring initiative yesterday by Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, delivered to the Government an unprecedented electoral prize: united trade union commitment to wage restraint.

After two hours of debate on the "social contract", the understanding between the unions and the Government that included the voluntary code for moderating pay claims, militant engineering union leaders abandoned their challenge to the new collective bargaining policy.

Their astonishing retreat followed an appeal by Mr Murray, which was not authorized by the general council, to withdraw a hardline resolution that set out politically unacceptable preconditions for wage restraint.

In the most highly charged scene at the annual Trades Union Congress for years, Mr Murray suddenly called on the militants to withdraw, on the understanding that their demands would be taken up by the general council. He admitted that he had no authorization from the council for his startling initiative, and looked that he would be ready to face impeachment.

But the move was a brilliant success. As the votes were being taken on less controversial motions on economic policy and the social contract, leaders of the four sections of the amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUUEW) hurriedly left their seats for a consultation at the back of the hall.

The four men involved were Mr Hugh Scanlon, the union president; Mr Kenneth Gill, communist secretary of the technical and supervisory section, who had led the attack on wage restraint; Mr Edward Marsden, leader of the constructional engineers, another communist; and Mr Robert Garland, president of the foundry workers' section.

Their deliberations continued during two votes. Then, just before delegates were to be asked to register their feelings on the engineers' militant stand, Mr Gill made a dramatic appearance at the rostrum and withdrew his challenge, saying it was in the interests of unity, albeit unity stretched to its absolute limit. The AUUEW abstained in the vote on the general council's document *Collective Bargaining and the Social Contract*, which gives guidelines for pay claims.

Only one union, the Civil and Public Services Association, which was seconding the AUUEW resolution, voted against the social contract, almost producing unanimity. When he addresses the congress today Mr Wilson will have the satisfaction of knowing that union leaders

favour the social contract 50 to 1.

In his initiative, which I am assured was spontaneous, Mr Murray gave a pledge that the eight points made by the militants would be embodied in the policies the TUC pursued with the present Government.

The eight points are: "A large-scale redistribution of income and wealth; a massive increase in house building with the emphasis on those in need; those on lower incomes; municipalization of rented property; public ownership of land required for housing; a wide-ranging and permanent system of price control; vastly improved social services; substantial increases in public ownership of public enterprise coupled with public supervision of the investment policies of large private corporations; and substantial cuts in defence spending to pay for the programme."

Mr Murray's pledge to take up the "alternative strategy" as the engineers describe it, made a disclaimer that it was not the job of the congress to guarantee the election of a Labour Government.

The general council is now saddled with those political aims, but the engineering workers are not committed to wage restraint. The union's dominant engineering section has renounced its policy-making national conference on November 5 for a two-day private discussion of the pay claim that will be submitted to the Engineering Employers' Federation next spring just before their wage agreement expires in April.

Mr Scanlon made clear to me last night that a strong motive in his union's withdrawal of its direct challenge to the social contract was the electoral position of the Labour Party. He did not want the engineers to be blamed as "saboteurs" of Labour's election chances, he said; but the union had not been diverted from its fundamental opposition to wage restraint.

Had a vote been taken on the AUUEW resolution, however, the engineers would have had few allies. The handful of unions in agreement with the AUUEW was increased earlier yesterday by the unanimous decision of the train drivers' delegation to support the resolution opposing the social contract. The number of unions committed to the hard-line view amounted to less than two million: a small number of unions, but a psychologically damaging vote against wage restraint that would have broken the ranks of the union movement had it been carried through.

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Children's advocate is proposed after report on Maria Colwell case

By Pat Healy
Social Services Correspondent

A "children's advocate", to give separate representation to children in some disputed care cases, may be included in the Government's forthcoming Children's Bill in the light of the Maria Colwell case.

Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, announced yesterday that the idea had been considered in detail and a consultative document would be issued soon.

Views of professional and other organizations and individual experts will be taken into account before a final decision is reached. Mr Owen, Minister of State for Health and Social Services, is believed to be an ardent supporter of the idea, but some social workers will have serious reservations.

"Further provision for the representation of children in certain court proceedings" had been considered, Mrs Castle announced in a statement issued with the typescript copies of the report on Maria Colwell, aged seven, whose stepfather

is serving an eight-year sentence for her manslaughter.

The main message of the report was that a failure in communications between the various agencies concerned with the child was responsible for the failure to protect her.

The report criticized the East Sussex authority for making "an attempt to gain time for the better testing of the suitability of Maria's return to her mother" and for "failing entirely to supervise Maria between June 1 and December 1, 1972".

Brighton was criticized for failing to coordinate essential information, and the NSPCC for faults in its communication system.

Mr Prentice, Secretary of State for Education, issued a circular yesterday asking all schools to review their arrangements so that teachers knew what action to take when they suspected that a pupil was suffering because of cruelty or neglect.

Mrs Castle will be reminding social services departments that

'It is right we should feel shocked and angry at the failure to protect Maria. We should also be shocked and angry at the social conditions in which she died'

specialist skills in child care should be available to social workers dealing with children, and asking that social work training should take account of the fact that "the blood tie is not absolute".

In her statement yesterday she emphasized that there should be thorough investigation of parents, including step-fathers, when a child in care was being considered for placing in a family.

It is right that we should feel shocked and angry at the failure to protect Maria, she

said. "We should also be shocked and angry at the social conditions which breed the circumstances in which she lived and died. Social work alone cannot solve these underlying problems."

Nobody suggested yesterday that better communication would eliminate all deaths of children at the hands of their parents. But there was strong support for better machinery to ensure that children at risk were noticed in time and for more resources for social services if the community wanted

social workers to have the primary responsibility.

Miss Diana Lees, the social worker supervising Maria Colwell before her death, said yesterday that the public sometimes expected the impossible of social service departments. Public expectation was higher than the resources could meet. It was not realized that resources were being cut.

The report's criticism of her role was reasonably fair, she said, although the majority report seemed not to understand the social workers' role.

"Obviously I feel a certain amount of responsibility, but I do not have a guilty conscience," she said. "With hindsight, there are some decisions I wish had been made differently."

Mr Denis Allen, director of social services for East Sussex, accepted that his department was responsible for Maria but refused to be a scapegoat. The lessons of the report should be learnt, he said, and his department was setting up an area review committee and considering how a central list of sus-

pected cases could be set up. But he added a warning that such measures could not protect all children.

"How can we as a community prevent 700 children a year from being killed by their parents, as research indicates is a fact?" he asked. "I do not think anyone should claim that the social services can control. There is a limit to which we can control a fact? We can control the other people's behaviour. In the end people will live their own lives."

Mr Allen and the British Association of Social Workers supported the idea of an independent social worker to help in assessing cases coming before the courts.

The association also advocated a change in the law so that a supervision order could be made on parents instead of children. In the Maria Colwell case, it was the parents who needed to be looked at, and specific orders should be available to ensure that that was done.

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Greece 'will accept a divided Cyprus'

Nicosia, Sept. 4.—Mr Rauf Denktaş, the Turkish-Cypriot leader, said today he has been informed that Greece and the Greek Cypriot Government were now prepared to accept the division of Cyprus into separate Greek and Turkish zones.

Mr Denktaş, in an interview with Reuters, also said he expected that Geneva-type peace negotiations would resume in two or three weeks.

The negotiations, involving Greece, Turkey, Britain and the Greek and Turkish Cypriots, collapsed on August 14. The breakdown was followed by a big push by the Turkish Army on the island.

Mr Denktaş said he had received information through various channels that the government of Greece and the Greek Cypriot Government of President Glafkos Clerides

had conceded that Cyprus should be divided into separate Greek and Turkish zones along federal lines. He said acceptance of a division by the Greek side "shows there is a realization of the facts in Cyprus."

The sooner we sit at a table and discuss how we can settle the matter, the better it will be for everybody—the Greeks and the Turks alike."

A federal solution was realistic, particularly in view of the reports of alleged massacres of Turkish villages.

Mr Denktaş advocated the division of the island into two regions "where each can look after himself under a federal umbrella so that chances of future understanding and co-operation are not lost."

There was "room for some negotiation" on the line dividing the two communities. "There are villages which we want to have within this line and there are villages which the Greeks would like to see out of it. A balanced way can be found," he said.

Reuter, a correspondent writes: Replying to Mr Denktaş's statement, President Clerides said his Government would not accept negotiations "on the sole basis of a settlement through geographical federalization."

Our Athens Correspondent writes: A Greek Government spokesman denied "that what had been said by Mr Denktaş reflected reality."

However, there is little doubt here that the idea of creating two separate zones in Cyprus has been broached in talks and is gaining ground. A high-ranking Greek official said it would seem inevitable that the partition of Cyprus would eventually lead to "double enosis", that is the annexation of the two parts by Greece and Turkey.

Grenade attack at church, page 7



General Franco, aged 81, shows himself fit enough to play golf at Pazo de Meira. He resumed full leadership this week after recovering from phlebitis.

Four die in guerrilla raid on Israel

From Eric Marsden
Jerusalem, Sept. 4

Two Israeli soldiers and two guerrilla infiltrators were killed early today in one of the fiercest encounters since the recent renewal of terrorist raids inside Israel. Two other soldiers were wounded in the clash, near the Arab village of Fassuta in western Galilee.

The village was put under curfew immediately as part of intensive security measures. Schools were ordered to close and villagers were confined to their houses while searches were made. The raiders, whose strength was not known, apparently infiltrated across the border with Lebanon today.

Later the restrictions at Fassuta were relaxed. Reports from Damascus that some of the raiders were at liberty and had taken hostages were dismissed here as being without foundation.

On Monday night, two infiltrators were killed by an Israeli Army patrol after crossing the security fence from Lebanon, near Hanita. Two others were believed to have

recrossed the border. Near the bodies were Russian Kalashnikov rifles, ammunition and quantities of explosives.

Al Fatah leaflets in Hebrew, Arabic and English were found, indicating that the men were part of a gang planning to take hostages in order to obtain the release of 20 convicted Arab terrorists in Israeli prisons. The gang, though, was thought to have belonged to a splinter group of Al Fatah, the Popular Struggle Front, which has financial backing from Libya and Iraq.

General Ensis Silasvuo, commander of the United Nations Emergency Force, left for Damascus today.

Damascus, Sept. 4.—The Popular Democratic Front for the Liberation of Palestine tonight said a number of hostages held by its men in northern Israel had been killed in an attack by Israel troops.

A communiqué said that the unit which had seized the hostages early today withdrew from a military barracks to a wooded area between the town of Fassuta and Maalot, in upper Galilee.—Reuter.

Bishops' threat to disobey S African law

From Michael Knipe
Cape Town, Sept. 4

The Roman Catholic bishops of South Africa threatened today to disobey legislation that would stifle debate on the question of conscientious objection.

A Bill now before Parliament provides for a fine of up to 10,000 rand (£5,200) or a jail sentence of up to 10 years for anyone found guilty of encouraging people to avoid military service.

A statement issued by the board of the Southern African Bishops' Conference described the draft legislation as "an extreme measure incompatible with Christ's gospel of peace."

The statement said: "The members of the board agreed that should the Bill become law in its present form they would be bound in conscience to disobey it and would expect clergy and people of their own and other churches to do likewise."

General Abrams dies

Washington, Sept. 4.—General Creighton Abrams, United States Army Chief of Staff died early today in Walter Reed Hospital. He was 59.

Proxy bomb greets Mr Powell's arrival as Unionist candidate for Down, South

From Robert Fisk
Belfast

A film director could not have devised a more dramatic introduction to Mr Powell's triumphal arrival yesterday. Chamberlain-hatted and wearing a short grey raincoat which made him look more like a country doctor than the leader of a Unionist resurgence, the new candidate for Down, South, was in the middle of a bomb scare and being jostled out of Belfast's best-known hotel within a few minutes of arriving for his first press conference.

Amid a flock of receptionists, coffee-shop waitresses and a gaggle of girls on the staff who were dressed in their finery for the arrival of the Unionist candidate, Mr Powell ended up in the centre of Great Victoria Street, a soldier in a rain cap standing a few feet behind him shouting "Get moving, go on, get moving."

The cause of the evacuation was a large van which had been driven to the Unionist Party headquarters next door to the original venue for Mr Powell's press conference, with 300lb of ammonium nitrate on board, wired to a detonator. The driver had been ordered by the IRA to take it to the Europa, but got only as far as an army checkpoint in Glengall Street,

from where the alarm was passed to the hotel.

The Rev Martin Smyth, Grand Master of the Orange Order, a close posse of business-like Unionist officials shepherded Mr Powell and his wife up the road while the Army started spraying a carpet of bubbling liquid 10ft high over the street to soften the impact of the explosion.

The experience left Mr Powell unmoved. In a second hotel half a mile away, owned, incidentally, by the Irish Republic's state transport company, Mr Powell said, when asked what effect the bomb had had: "We are all in the hands of the Lord. In the midst of life we are in death, and other texts. Any politicians of prominence in Great Britain today realize that somebody could want to do a mischief. This is no strange deal with Northern Ireland. I have been explaining for years the disastrous consequences for this province of the attempts by successive British governments to have it both ways and to satisfy equally, more or less equally, those who were irreconcilable opposites; those who want this province to be a part

of the United Kingdom, and those who want it to be part of a foreign state. . . . That is impossible, and the behaviour of the British Government in letting it appear that they thought it possible and desirable was one of the main causes of fomenting and encouraging violence."

Mr Powell said he was glad that the Government had at last seen the necessity of strengthening the RUC, because it had previously been diminishing its role. When he was asked about the security situation, he said: "Most people in Northern Ireland would be very happy to be back in almost any period of the existence of Stormont from the beginning. I daresay they would swap the past five years for any year of Stormont's existence."

Would Mr Powell be prepared to join the Provisional IRA? He waited for a second before replying: "I understand that this is an illegal organization. I do not usually welcome donations from the burglars' union."

He went on: "But an individual is an individual and a constituent is a constituent, and it is the business of a member of Parliament to be available and to give advice where he can."

Was Mr Powell in Northern

Continued on page 2, col 4

Britain's first gold medal won by Pascoe

Britain gained its first gold medal at the European Athletics Championships in Rome yesterday when Alan Pascoe won the 400 metres hurdles. British hopes of another gold shortly afterwards were not fulfilled when David Jenkins ran well below his best form to take the silver medal in the 400 metres.

Pascoe, a 26-year-old London college lecturer from Penzance, ran a superbly timed race, vindicating his decision to compete despite a troublesome thigh injury which caused the British selectors to leave it up to him whether to run.

Pascoe allowed a Russian hurdler, Evgeni Gavrilenko, to make the early pace, then strode through powerfully on the final bend to hold off Frenchman, Jean-Claude Nallet.

Eighteen-year-old Steven Owen won Britain's second silver medal of the day when second in the final of the 300 metres to Luciano Susani, of Yugoslavia.

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Heath visit cancelled

Mr Heath cancelled a visit to the Edinburgh Festival last night because of the Morning Cloud tragedy. Last night, he will fly to Scotland today.

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HOME NEWS

Report blames poor efforts by boroughs for home scarcity

By Christopher Warman
Local Government
Correspondent

London boroughs, particularly the outer boroughs, are urged to redouble their efforts to build houses to meet the present shortage of 130,000 homes in the London area, it is stated in a government report published yesterday.

The report, by the Action Group on London Housing, says that the shortage of 130,000 in mid-1974 compares with a projected shortage of 106,000 in 1971. "These figures clearly justify the seriousness of the position, and require intensification of the efforts to produce more houses."

"There is a need to develop available land in outer London which can produce a housing gain to meet not only the needs of inner London but also of outer London itself."

Mr Kaufman, Parliamentary Under-Secretary, Department of the Environment, who is chairman of the group, said the situation was "desperately serious, intolerable."

"A great city and capital cannot afford to live with a problem of this kind. London housing has a problem of the severity and nature not applicable to the rest of the country. This Government is absolutely determined to tackle and solve the housing problems of London," Mr Kaufman said at a press conference to launch the report.

The report of the group, composed of council members

of the main parties, officials and civil servants, will go to Mr Ffreeson, Minister for Housing and Construction. Mr Ffreeson in May called for a rapid improvement in house-building programmes in London, and the report follows a crash inquiry into the housing work of 11 outer boroughs.

Many boroughs are criticized in the strongly worded report for their shortcomings.

"The public sector," it says, "by mid-1974 the council housing programmes at Barnet, Bromley, Merton, Redbridge and Sutton had barely made use of half of the land they had declared to be finally available for public sector housing in 1972/75."

"We consider the behaviour of some councils completely unsatisfactory when they do not have a satisfactory building programme themselves nor do they permit other authorities to build in their boroughs and nor do they provide anything like a reasonable number of their own tenancies for Greater London Council nominees."

Mr Ffreeson will study the report and replies to questions from all the London boroughs. Then, Mr Kaufman said, the Government would shortly announce plans designed to tackle and solve London's housing problems.

(Action Group on London Housing, Use of Land in Outer London, Fourth report to the Minister for Housing and Construction, Department of the Environment, 35p).

Scrutiny group sifts 403 proposed EEC laws

By Our Political Staff

The Lords' scrutiny committee on European legislation produced a report yesterday after sifting through 403 EEC proposals in three months. Lord Diamond, the chairman, believes the committee has caught up with the train that left the station before the committee was appointed.

The committee, set up in May, 16 months after Britain joined the EEC, faced a backlog of 271 proposals. In the next three months there were 132 more.

The report concludes: "The committee recognizes that its responsibilities may in time come to be discharged within the institutions of the European Communities."

"Meanwhile, however, so long as the procedures of the EEC do not allow for full democratic scrutiny of those proposals for legislation which, once made, are binding on the citizens of the member states, the committee attaches great importance to its work of scrutiny and to the subsequent informed debates in Parliament; without these the

Common Market will remain ill understood."

Recommended topics for debate in Parliament are: economic guidelines, the regional development fund, strengthening the budgetary powers of the European Parliament, harmonization of value-added tax, and public supply contracts.

The special report discloses that the Lord Maybray-King committee undervalued the amount of scrutiny necessary. It thought that about 5 per cent of the proposals would need to be scrutinized, but yesterday's report said: "The results of sifting so far have disclosed the much higher figure of about 30 per cent."

The committee decided that 217 proposals did not warrant scrutiny. "The total number awaiting consideration on July 31, 1974, was 117, consisting of 56 awaiting sifting and 63 in the course of examination."

Having regard to the first three months' progress and to the recent date or non-urgent nature of many outstanding proposals the committee does not consider the figure of 119 unmanageable.

'Hazards' in hospital production of fluid

By John Roper
Medical Reporter

An investigation after the deaths of five patients from a contaminated dextrose drip-fed solution showed that 10 hospital pharmacy departments out of 12 had defects in organization, the Pharmaceutical Society conference was told in Nottingham yesterday.

Miss Helen Roberts, a chemist and perfusion fluids manager at a Cheshire hospital, said that hospital production of fluids after the 1972 investigation continued under hazardous conditions. Many of the older pharmacy buildings were converted and sited in basements near catering departments and rows of refuse bins.

Hospitals must stop playing at large-scale manufacture of infusion fluids, undertaken when outside manufacturers showed signs of "drying up", and do the job properly or not at all.

At another session of the conference Mr J. W. Stratford, production manager of a Hertfordshire drug company, said that manufacture of medicinal products might best be left to the drug industry and not to local hospital pharmacy. To fulfil the requirements of the government guide to good manufacturing practice, many hospital pharmacy departments intending to undertake manufacture would have to be rebuilt.

Hospital pharmacists were at a great disadvantage. Manufacturers had years of experience to draw on when selecting equipment but hospital pharmacists had to rely on advice and learn from mistakes.

Mr R. Baker, of the medicines inspectorate of the Department of Health, said mistakes in the making of products might cost manufacturers large sums of money. Recovering faulty eye-drops has cost one manufacturer £15,000. Recovering 17,000 tablets in which a wrong ingredient had been used meant sifting 30,000 wholesalers' invoices and 120,000 prescriptions to discover which patients might have received the tablets.



Mr Enoch Powell with the Rev Martin Smyth, leader of the Orange Order (left), and Mr John Laird, an Assemblyman (right), walking through Belfast yesterday after a bomb scare at the Europa Hotel.

Mr Powell unmoved by bombers

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Ireland not turning against his own strongly held belief that governments should not legislate against reality? Was he not, after all, suggesting that Northern Ireland's permanent place within the United Kingdom would diminish violence?

The reality, he said, was what the majority earnestly and firmly desired and they would make any sacrifice in its favour. "Mutually exclusive desires cannot be satisfied, and peace cannot be achieved by the most likely to prevail and least likely to be the wisest if they are based on the one alternative sustained by the majority wish."

Mr Powell said he did not know what the wishes of his colleagues were about the leadership of the Northern Ireland MPs at Westminster.

The bomb outside his party headquarters was defused by the Army during the afternoon.

Mr Faulkner launches own party

From Robert Fisk
Belfast

Mr Brian Faulkner, the man who led the power-sharing Executive in Northern Ireland until it fell prey to the "loyalists" strike and who was once leader of the official Unionist party, launched his own political group yesterday. It is dedicated to the union with Britain and is called the Unionist Party of Northern Ireland.

Just 300 delegates arrived for his conference in a suburban Belfast hotel and they must have known that one of Mr Faulkner's former executive ministers, Mr Roy Bradford, had condemned the group already as "a pallid facsimile of the Alliance Party". It is hard to see, in the prevailing political climate, how Mr Faulkner can hope to rally many recruits, especially since he once again advocated a government in which power should be shared between unionists and republicans.

He also criticized his former colleagues in the official

Unionist party which effectively rejected him as its leader early this year. "A fresh structure for true unionism has become necessary," he said, "because others claiming to be unionist within the old structure have adopted policies which, despite their protestations, clearly lead away from the British link and have surrendered their party to the control, remorse or direct, of outsiders who have at best no solid unionist standpoint, and who at worst have associations which reach down to gangland."

The maintenance of the union, Mr Faulkner said, was his party's first priority.

In a statement yesterday the Roman Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party said in effect that loyalists should never again be allowed to campaign for a majority government in Northern Ireland. Unless they accepted that then the SDLP would be the party of the island is how the SDLP referred to them, "could no longer be allowed to frustrate the agreed will of all the rest

of the British and Irish people."

The latest White Paper on the province, the SDLP said, lacked clarity and direction and had dangerous contradictions, allowing the loyalists to ignore power-sharing and the Irish dimension.

The British Government decided last night to allow control of all street lighting in Newry, Co. Down, to be handed back from the Army to the electricity board in the town, a demand the Provisional IRA has been making since it caused the complete power blackout in the district more than a week ago.

Soldier charged: Fusilier Francis David Moody, who was extradited from Sweden, was remanded in custody at a special court in Lisburn, Co. Antrim, last night, until September 11, accused of the murder of Thomas Forsyth, a member of the Ulster Defence Regiment, last October (the Press Association reports). Earlier yesterday he was flown to Northern Ireland from Stockholm.

New proposals bring hope of Court Line refund

By Maurice Corina
Industrial Editor

New proposals for refunds to disappointed holidaymakers caught by the Court Line crash are to be put to the liquidators and the Government.

The retail agents' council of the Association of British Travel Agents (ABTA) said last night, after a long meeting, it did not want to raise hopes prematurely, but members believed that the proposals "should be acceptable" to the Government, ABTA's tour operators, the Tour Operators Study Group trust fund and the liquidators of Court Line holiday companies.

Immediate steps are being taken to secure the agreement of all concerned, an official statement added. Another statement might be issued within 48 hours, "but to comment further at this stage could well prejudice negotiations."

Last Friday the liquidators rejected a draft plan for refunding moneys held by the travel trade. No one is saying very much but there was some speculation after yesterday's meeting that the Government might be asked to give specific guarantees to protect the interests of all creditors.

ABTA's full national council may meet today or tomorrow to hear the new proposals of the retail agents, whose council also discussed the decision

of some members to make refunds in breach of ABTA policy. The liquidators have said that premature refunds might lead to court actions to recover the money.

Ship company: The Court Line tanker Halcyon Skies moored last night at the oil-clearing terminal at Birkenhead, Merseyside, after a 16-day wait outside the port (the Press Association reports). The permission to berth had been held up, as a result of the crash.

Earlier yesterday there were long talks on board between representatives of the official receiver, port authorities and the National Union of Seamen, mainly over the crew's wages.

Captain Morgan Jones, the master said, "I have been shown a document from a merchant bank that they are arranging to pay all the wages."

Call for inquiry: Mr Eidon Griffiths, Opposition spokesman for the House of Commons, said last night that had the directors of any private company behaved as Mr Shore, Secretary of State for Trade, had over Court Line, "it is more than likely that a primary case for civil and possibly criminal action could lie against them."

Mr Griffiths called for an independent inquiry into the behaviour of Mr Shore and Mr Benn, Secretary of State for Industry.

Travel-linked tickets urged on football clubs

By Tim Jones

Football clubs are to be asked to introduce travel-linked ticket schemes for their supporters in an effort to curb hooliganism.

That was the outcome of a three-hour meeting Mr Howell, Minister of State for Sport and Recreation, had yesterday with Mr Marsh, chairman of British Rail, chief constables, Home Office officials and members of the Association of British Travel Agents.

If the plan is feasible, Mr Howell hopes that the "small minority of troublemakers" can be isolated by their own clubs during away matches.

He said: "If we know the vast majority of visiting supporters have travelled under the scheme it will enable the police to concentrate on the small minority of hooligans who cause trouble."

He hopes that clubs will hire special trains to take their supporters to away matches. The supporters would buy their travel and match entry tickets at the same time, and the club would provide stewards to do it at the club.

Blackpool football players attended the funeral at Blackpool yesterday of Kexi Olsson, aged 18, who was stabbed at a Blackpool and Bolton match.

Yard man denies assault on demonstrators

Mr John Gerrard, Deputy Assistant Commissioner of the Metropolitan Police, denied yesterday that his officers had made an ill advised assault on the demonstrators in Red Lion Square, London.

The suggestion was made at the St James's tribunal to Mr Gerrard by Mr Stephen Sedley, representing Warwick University students' union and the National Union of Students.

It was the third day of the inquiry into the disorders, which arose in June when marches by the National Front and the anti-racist Liberation Movement converged.

Mr Sedley suggested that the police, who were under the charge of Mr Gerrard during the demonstration, had committed the assault in Theobalds Road, near Red Lion Square, after the first rush on the police cordon.

He said: "What happened, I suggest, was an ill advised assault upon a crowd which was trapped at the time and which created a quite serious disorder and injury and brought about arrests which should have never taken place either. That was the result, I suggest, of what the police did."

Mr Gerrard denied that.

Earlier, Mr Paul Rowe, for the Communist Party of England (Marxist Leninist) asked Mr Gerrard if he was aware that the present leaders of the

National Front were committed to the training and controlling of a paramilitary force.

He continued: "Were you aware that in 1962 Martin Webster (now the NF's activities organizer) said he was involved in organizing a well oiled nazi machine in Britain?"

Mr Rowe then mentioned the "Greater Britain Movement", which he said was set up by Mr Webster and Mr Tyndall, of the NF, and asked if Mr Gerrard was aware that the movement still celebrated Hitler's birthday.

Mr Gerrard said he knew nothing of that.

When Mr Rowe tried to introduce a quotation from Hitler in a question to Mr Gerrard, Lord Justice Scarman said: "I am not going to have the time of this inquiry wasted, and this is what is happening now, with questions Mr Gerrard is not qualified to answer."

Mr Gerrard denied a suggestion by Mr Rock Tanquer for the International Marxist group, that there was a determined attack by the police on the demonstrators in Theobalds Road to drive them off the street and to intimidate them from coming on demonstrations in the future."

Mr Gerrard also denied that people were punched and assaulted by the police. The reverse was the case, he said.

The inquiry continues today.

Minister's call on dockers to free sugar

Hull dockers who stopped sugar exports are not helping housewives, according to Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection. She told Mr Anthony Fess, Hull docks' shop steward, in a telegram: "I cannot support it."

On Monday Hull dockers refused to handle 80 tons of sugar which was due for reexport.

Mrs Williams said: "We are negotiating now for more sugar at reasonable prices. Our re-export trade in this high-price sugar provides valuable foreign exchange which helps to maintain our own standard of living; it also provides employment for your fellow trade unionists in our cane refineries."

"The sugar that is currently being exported from Britain, including the cargo you have stopped, is refined from raw sugar especially imported for this trade."

"It was bought on the world market at prices much higher than those we pay for our regular imports for home consumption, and could only go into the shops at a price far above present retail levels."

"Most of our sugar comes from abroad. We need our overseas suppliers to keep their contracts with us. We must therefore keep our contracts with our overseas customers."

Meanwhile, agents for the London owners diverted the sugar to another port during the night.

Price rise continues: Another record London daily sugar price was reached yesterday. It rose a further £10 to £370 a long ton.

Although the futures market responded yesterday with the March, 1975, position down at £302 a ton, down £11.75 a day, traders expect £350 will be reached soon.

The world shortage is expected to continue, and although production is likely to exceed 81,500,000 tons compared with 80,200,000 this year, the 1975 figure will probably be about a million tons less than demand.

Panic-buying in France, page 7

£3.75m London Weekend challenge to BBC

A challenge to the BBC's autumn television line-up was announced yesterday by London Weekend Television.

Mr Cyril Bennett, programme controller, announced 12 new series and three spectaculars in schedules up to Christmas.

"We are spending £3.75m on what we believe represents the highest range of talent and the most varied schedule presented to viewers by LWT."

The company's battle to win viewers begins on Saturday with Stanley Baxter in an hour-long spectacular.

Danny La Rue, the female impersonator, appears in his own show. A husband and wife, John Alderton and Pauline Collins, play husband and wife in a comedy series.

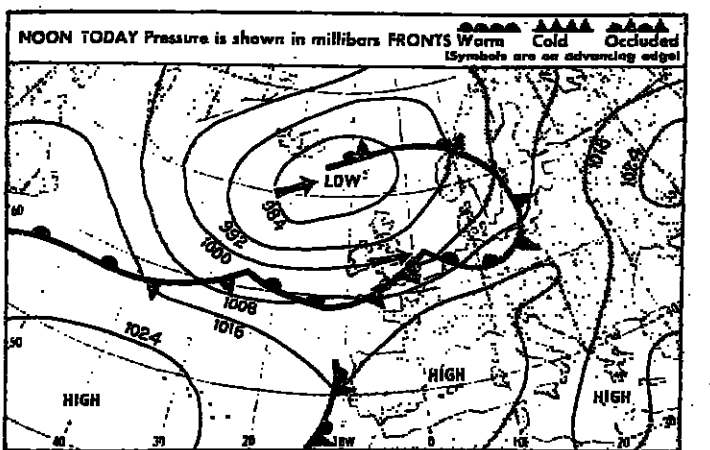
Firm on three-day week

Up to 360 staff employed by Thomson Yellow Pages Ltd will be working three days a week from next Monday because the industrial dispute at the stationery office has stopped printing of telephone directories.

Singer's operation

Mr Gary Gitter, the entertainer, is to have an operation later this month for the removal of infected throat tissues which have troubled him for two years. His singing voice may be drastically altered.

Weather forecast and recordings



Today
Sun rises: 6.19 am
Sun sets: 7.39 pm
Moon sets: 10.28 am
Last Quarter: September 9, 10.28 am
Lighting up: 8.9 pm to 5.50 am
High water: London Bridge, 4.38 am (2.2m), 12.50 pm (2.4m); 10.2 am (2.3m), 12.7m (4.1m), 10.17 pm (2.6m), 12.10 pm (2.1m), 1.54 pm (2.1m), 1.54 pm (2.1m), 9.15 am (2.8m), 12.8m (2.8m), 1.44 am (2.8m), 2.1 pm (2.8m), 8.4m (2.7m).

A deep depression will remain centred S of Iceland and troughs of low pressure will move E over the British Isles. Gales in places, temperatures generally below normal.

Forecast for 6 am to midnight:
London, East Anglia, Midlands: fair; rain, S, sun.

SE, SW and central S England, S Wales, Channel Islands: Mostly cloudy, periods of rain; wind SW, fresh or strong, coastal gales at times; max temp 17°C (63°F).

E, NE, central N England: Rather cloudy, rain at first, showers, sunny intervals later, wind W, fresh; max temp 16°C (61°F).

Outlook: Rather cool and changeable, rain at times in all districts but some drier sunny spells.

Sea messages:
S North Sea, Strait of Dover: Wind SW, strong or gale, rain at times, sea rough or very rough.
English Channel: Wind W, strong or gale, rain at times, sea rough or very rough.
St George's Channel, Irish Sea: Wind SW or W, strong or gale, rain at first, bright periods.

Yesterday
London: Temp: max, 7 am to 7 pm, 18°C (64°F); min, 7 am to 7 pm, 12°C (54°F). Humidity, 7 am, 0.6m; 12 pm, 0.4m; 7 pm, 0.7m. Bar, mean sea level, 7 pm, 1000.3 millibars, rising, 1,000 millibars = 29.53in.

At the resorts
24 hours to 6 pm, September 4

Resort	Temp	Wind	Sea	Cloud
E COAST	18-20	10-15	1-2	1-2
S COAST	18-20	10-15	1-2	1-2
W COAST	18-20	10-15	1-2	1-2

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National Westminster Bank Group

Why did Gladstone's Postmaster General need a little help?

Henry Fawcett was a London MP who as PMG under Gladstone introduced among other things the postal post, cheap telegrams and postal orders. Right up to his last illness he was riding, skating and rowing. Why does Henry Fawcett go down in history as one of London's most courageous and determined men?

Henry Fawcett was totally blind.

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To the GLFB, 2A Wyndham Place, London W1H 2AQ (01-264 0191). Please attach my donation of £ to help you help the blind people of Greater London.

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HOME NEWS

Call for a London police authority

By Christopher Warman
Local Government Correspondent

The Metropolitan Police should be made accountable to the local electorate through the establishment of an elected police authority, the Association of Metropolitan Authorities said yesterday.

The association, which represents all the local authorities in the metropolitan areas of the country, including the Greater London Council and the London boroughs, has told the Home Office that it is anomalous that the Metropolitan Police alone among the country's police forces should not have an elected police authority.

The AMA made its call as a result of the proposals by Mr Jenkins, the Home Secretary, for setting up an independent structure to deal with complaints against the police.

The association wants the elected members of existing police authorities to be given a dominant role in the complaints body, and for London to get the same treatment as the rest of the country.

In comments on the proposals, the AMA's police and fire committee told the Home Office: "The situation concerning the existing machinery for handling complaints against the police is not a bad one, nor really unfair to the public as it stands, and the committee feels that a good deal of unnecessary disquiet has been expressed about the machinery which is without substantial justification."



Mr Richard Hunt, a dealer, examining a proof in deep brown of an 1840 British penny stamp at Stanley Gibbons's A. M. Smeaton collection auction in London.

Leaders of Civil Assistance now selecting over 50 'controllers'

By Christopher Walker

In conditions of strict secrecy, General Sir Walter Walker and the other leaders of Civil Assistance, the largest of the new patriotic organizations in Britain, are now selecting more than 50 "controllers" to supervise their operation throughout the country.

Their fear of infiltration by left-wing groups is intense, and it was forbidden this week to inspect any of the names, addresses or professions of the 1,500 men they say are now being "security vetted" for top posts within the organization.

The task of final selection is being left to Lieutenant-Colonel Robert Butler, a retired soldier aged 58, who combines his new role as chief executive and group spokesman with writing a book on mystic philosophy.

At his home near the Hampshire village of Sway, Colonel Butler said: "There is a real danger that moves will be made to infiltrate us. Either we behave accordingly or we become lax, like a lot of boy scouts who do not really take the communist threat seriously."

Colonel Butler says that earlier this week he received an official warning from the Hampshire police to be on his guard against attempts to steal the documents and lists of names now in his possession.

"They told me to be particularly on the look-out for left-wingers who might try and pose as police officers and attempt to take them away," he said.

The leaders of Civil Assistance, who already claim more than 100,000 members, appear completely underpinned by the ministerial criticism and public ridicule that has greeted news of their activities in certain quarters.

Colonel Butler admitted yesterday that Civil Assistance had been approached by a number of groups in Britain who had declared that they were prepared to act "outside the law" to deal with threats of subversion. He did not know if any were armed.

Colonel Butler told me that a long list of names and allegations about people in Britain allegedly involved in subversive activities had already been compiled.

Warning by MP: Mr Airey Neave, Conservative MP for Abingdon, said yesterday of the groups of General Walker and Colonel David Stirling: "I think that, with all its genuine patriotism, an unofficial force would have great dangers." The Press Association reports. Such a force would not be subject to government direction and might be in great danger of recruiting political extremists.

Question over article: The dispute over the political role of the British Army deepened yesterday after publication of a controversial article by an unidentified serving officer in *Monday World*, the quarterly journal of the right-wing Monday Club.

Mr John Lee, Labour MP for Birmingham, Handsworth, plans to question the Attorney General about whether the article constitutes an offence under the Incitement to Disaffection in the Armed Forces Act.

Yesterday the Ministry of Defence said it had not discovered the identity of the soldier who wrote the article. He is in breach of army regulations because permission has to be obtained before any article is written and none had been sought.

Gamblers at casino were cheated, court told

Mr Graham Neville, counsel appearing for the police and the Gaming Board, told Torbay licensing magistrates yesterday how people at the Carlton Club casino in Torquay, scene of the three murders last December, were cheated.

He said that winning roulette players were short-changed and that games were speeded so that customers were unable to check their chips properly. Male inspectors sometimes took the place of girl croupiers when the house was on a losing streak.

He continued: "Some of the girls with whom I tell you there would watch games being conducted by the inspectors and on some occasions they saw underpayment quite clearly being made to winners."

Mr Neville told the court that punters were plied with drink. Winning customers were sometimes invited into after-hours games of cards. Sometimes the games would continue throughout the night and the next day. Croupiers returning the next morning would find the same people in the same places playing cards.

Both the Gaming Board and the police were giving their reasons yesterday for objecting to the renewal of the club's casino licence. The case is expected to last three days.

It was in the casino, in Torwood Street, Torquay, that Martin Fenton, aged 44, a businessman, shot dead three people after murdering a policeman in a street. He is serving a life sentence after being convicted at Exeter Crown Court in June.

Mr Neville said Mr Fenton lost a considerable amount of money at the casino. But the owner, Mr John Tsigrasides, when questioned by the police about giving unlawful credit to Mr Fenton, denied that and said that at no time was money or chips from the casino section advanced to Mr Fenton. During Mr Fenton's trial in June, he added, the court heard of a feud between himself and the Greek.

Miss Marion Fletcher, a former croupier at the club and now a police officer, said there were several occasions on which customers were short-changed. Mr Tsigrasides always used to endorse underpayment.

On one occasion an Arab boy was winning considerably as 4 am approached, the time the casino should close on week days. But it was kept open for an extra half-hour until the young man lost his money. She added: "The last spin was timed to coincide with the last chips that he was left to play with."

The hearing continues today.

'A' level at 84

Mr Harry Grossman, aged 84, former army major, of Peverill Road, Beeston, has passed a second A level in applied mathematics four years after gaining one in pure mathematics.

Brighton suing Brian Clough and Leeds

Brian Clough, the manager of Leeds United, is being sued for damages by his former club, Brighton and Hove Albion, which alleges breach of contract.

The third division club is also suing Leeds United for damages for allegedly inducing Mr Clough to break his five-year contract.

In its writ, issued on Tuesday in the High Court, Brighton FC is also claiming £75,000 alleged to have been agreed between the two clubs as compensation for losing Mr Clough's services.

It also claims damages in the event of Leeds United not fulfilling an alleged agreement to play a friendly match at Brighton during the 1974-75 season.

Mr Clough signed as Brighton's manager for a five-year term in November, 1973, at a salary of £7,500 a year. Brighton FC alleges that Mr Clough was in breach of contract when he left in July this year, and says it is entitled to damages because it has been unable to replace him with a man of equivalent ability.

The writ alleges that two Leeds directors, Manny Cussins and Bob Roberts, induced Mr Clough to break his contract and join Leeds straightaway. Alternatively, it maintains that Leeds offered to pay £75,000 compensation if Brighton would release Mr Clough immediately and not sue it for inducing Mr Clough to break his contract.

Solicitors asked Leeds to pay the £75,000 on July 22, but it was not paid, the writ states. Leeds United has also allegedly repudiated the agreement to play the friendly match at Brighton.

Lord Snowdon in disabled inquiry

Lord Snowdon is chairman of a working party on the integration of the disabled, the formation of which was announced yesterday. Its formation follows discussions between Lord Snowdon, Mr Alfred Morris, minister for the disabled, and Mr Duncan Gubrie, director of Action Research for the Crippled Child.

A spokesman for Action Research said the party hoped to identify areas in which positive action was still needed and to make recommendations.

Coal board and county council clash over plans for new Yorkshire mine

From Ronald Kershaw Wakefield

A clash between the West Yorkshire County Council and the National Coal Board appears to be imminent over conditions laid down by the county council to be observed by the board in developing a new drift mine at Royston, near Barnsley.

The conditions, announced yesterday, include rules about methods of working coal, percentages of extraction, transport of output and disposal of waste. The decisions by the county council's development sub-committee against which the coal board has the right of appeal are seen by the local authority as an advance by its new planning department into more rigid environmental control.

Mr John Senior, chairman of the sub-committee, suggested yesterday that wide repercussions might result, possibly affecting the development of the Selby coalfield in the neighbouring North Yorkshire County Council area.

It is no secret that the two councils have had discussions on the development of the new

mines, which, discounting scale of operation and location, have environmental considerations in common.

West Yorkshire County Council was at pains to emphasize the considerable consultation that has taken place between the NCB and itself, and that a certain amount of harmony had been achieved.

The coal board's plan is to put down a new £2m drift mine on the site of the now closed New Monkton colliery, mining different seams to win 10 million tons of coal over 30 years, employing 230 men. A council official admitted last night that the board was not entirely happy at the controls on the underground workings which could be applied by the planning authority.

"That became very clear last night when the coal board announced: 'While it is true there has been a high degree of consultation on the planning conditions, we have not until today seen the final wording. There are one or two matters which would appear to need clarification and we intend to

seek an early meeting with the planning authority.'

"In particular, we are not able to accede to any conditions about methods of working which cut across the statutory responsibilities of the mine manager, in respect of safety of the mine and subsidence precautions. These are responsibilities which cannot be delegated to any other authority."

"So far as waste disposal is concerned, we are anxious that this vital project should not be held up pending the preparation of a major reclamation scheme in the area (one of the conditions).

"While we have agreed to transport output by rail, the condition in this respect is so worded as to be unacceptably restrictive during the development period, if for instance rail transport were interrupted for any reason when the mine is in operation."

Quarry appeal: ICI has appealed against the Peak Park Joint Planning Board's refusal to allow a new limestone quarry at Old Moor, near Buxton, Derbyshire.

Tommy Lawton to do 200 hours of community work

From Our Correspondent Nottingham

Tommy Lawton, aged 54, the former England and Nottingham County footballer, was ordered by Nottingham magistrates yesterday to serve a sentence of 200 hours community service work for obtaining £20 by deception from a friend.

Mr Lawton, of Patterdale Road, Woodthorpe, Nottingham, was convicted at an earlier hearing of obtaining £10 by deception from a friend, Mr Roland De'Ath, licensee of the Horse and Jockey Inn at Bulwell.

Yesterday he asked for another offence involving his autobiography, *When the Cheering Stopped*, to be taken into consideration. He admitted obtaining £10 by deception from Mr De'Ath by falsely stating that he was employed by Golden Eagle Press to sell his autobiography and was authorized to receive money for books ordered from the publishers.

Mr Michael O'Connell, for the defence, said: "The punishment inflicted in this case can only be half of that already caused by the publicity given by the media. He has suffered a

great deal of stress from the publicity."

Dr Hugh Rice, the chairman, told Mr Lawton: "We appreciate that matters are made very difficult for you by the publicity which is quite inevitable in a case such as this." He said that in July, 1972, Mr Lawton had been put on probation for three years for seven offences. At that time he asked for a further 12 cases of deception and eight of pecuniary advantage to be taken into consideration.

"We have to consider the record of 29 known offences," Dr Rice continued. "Whatever publicity has been given it is not in our view suitable to let you off with a trivial sentence of community service work."

Mr Lawton was ordered to serve the 200 hours within a year. He was also sentenced to a further 200 hours of community service work to run concurrently for breach of probation. He was also ordered to pay £20 prosecution costs and compensation of £20 to Mr De'Ath.

After the case Mr Lawton's probation officer said: "I cannot at this stage say what Mr Lawton's tasks are going to be."

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MARIA COLWELL REPORT

Sharing the responsibility: Social services, NSPCC, teachers, neighbours

By David Leigh

The report on the life and death of Maria Colwell, who was killed at the age of seven by her stepfather in a beating while she was supervised by the local authority, censures two welfare departments and the National Society for the Prevention of Cruelty to Children.

The 60,000-word report, [conclusions on the facing page] which the Government has issued in typescript while proper publication awaits the end of a printers' strike, presents a long list of failures in communication, in which social workers, NSPCC workers, school welfare officers, teachers and members of the public were all involved.

A minority report by Miss Olive Stevenson, Reader in Social Administration at Oxford University, the only one of the three inquiry members to be identified with professional social workers, accuses her colleagues of over-simplification. She has a much more sympathetic view of the decisions social workers took about the moves of the child between natural parent, foster-parents and stepfather.

"I do not think a hierarchy of blame is appropriate and therefore dissociate myself from it," Miss Stevenson writes. "The report is written by people caught up in Maria Colwell's death, but to those whom it employs to perform tasks of the utmost difficulty and complexity, under conditions of great strain."

After nine weeks of public hearings in Brighton at the end of last year, the three members of the inquiry, appointed by Sir Keith Joseph, then Secretary of State for Social Services, sat down immediately to disagreement. Mr Thomas Field-Fisher, QC, the chairman, Alderman Mrs Rowena Davey, of Essex County Council, and Miss Stevenson could not resolve their differences in the five months of writing.

The body of the report analyses in detail the moves by which Maria Colwell was originally fostered with her relatives, the Coopers; returned after five years to her biological mother, who was then a local authority supervision order; and ill-treated in her new home despite reports from neighbours and teachers of her plight.

The foster-parents, the report says: "East Sussex considered them suitable to foster Maria and saw no reason to change that opinion as the years passed." They were devoted to her and she had a normal and satisfactory upbringing. Mrs Kepple, Maria Colwell's mother, campaigned for her return. East Sussex social work department was anxious about the effect that would have on the child, but eventually decided not to oppose court action for Maria's return. Mrs Kepple was undertaken,

which caused upsets and attempts by the child to run away.

The report says: "We cannot accept that in a case such as this a child should be subject to the degree of stress shown by Maria."

"If there is a reluctance to seek a second opinion from another discipline and too much emphasis is placed on independent judgment, then clients will suffer as Maria did."

The report said they considered it wholly wrong that no effort was made, even at a late stage, to get a medical opinion as to the health and significance of the child's continuing protests. There was no doubt in their minds that her loyalties lay with the Coopers.

At the court hearing, for her return to her mother, little was known about the prospective stepfather, who had a history of illness, of brawling and use of different names. The foster-parents were virtually excluded from the proceedings.

Under the supervision order that was made to replace the original and more stringent care order, there were too few powers, and no statutory rules as to how supervision should be done. Because Maria Colwell had moved to Brighton, Miss Diana Lees, the social worker responsible, was operating outside her territory, East Sussex, and did not know local schools and other welfare officials.

After the court order in November, until the following February, there is not enough evidence to satisfy us that Maria's general well-being was being watched by East Sussex with sufficient care.

In April, 1972, neighbours reported that the child had injuries. Welfare agencies testified that such evidence should be treated cautiously, but the report states, "the weight of this evidence is such that we have no hesitation in accepting it in general terms."

The picture presented was of a physically and emotionally deteriorating child who was deprived and unhappy, at any rate after April, 1972. Mrs. Daphne Kirby, of the NSPCC, who told that Maria Colwell, then injured, had fallen off a scooter: "In our opinion Mrs Kirby accepted the explanation she was given for these serious injuries far too readily, in particular against the NSPCC, which had prevented a liaison between the school, the educational welfare officer and the borough social services department."

Maria Colwell, despite an elaborate "welfare provision", fell through the net primarily because of communication failures, the report concludes.

Records should be better kept and there should be more secretarial help available. The NSPCC had low administrative costs but "skimping on such



Maria Colwell: Sad history in which "the system" failed.

plete failure to supervise" between June and December. Miss Lees's superior had to share responsibility for that.

The report expresses surprise at the number of times the records and recollections of officials concerned did not tally in the later incidents in Maria's life. It emphasizes that there was no doubt, however, of everyone's truthfulness and concern.

By December, because of "the fatal failure to pool the total knowledge of the child's background, recent history and physical and mental condition, the last real opportunity of removing her was missed."

The education welfare officer, formerly known as the truancy officer, was concerned about the child, but was confused about her role in the matter. The report criticizes the lack of liaison between the school, the educational welfare officer and the borough social services department. Educational welfare officers are administratively distinct from social service departments.

Maria Colwell, despite an elaborate "welfare provision", fell through the net primarily because of communication failures, the report concludes.

Records should be better kept and there should be more secretarial help available. The NSPCC had low administrative costs but "skimping on such

servicing is not in the long run conducive to efficiency."

Of communications between and within schools, the child was transferred from one to another, the report says: "This was for Maria an important link in the welfare chain and one which was on occasion well served."

It is reasonable to infer that the staff of the Brighton schools did not regard the school record cards as an important part of their information system. Too often in the course of our inquiry we heard of "proof systems" which in the event proved faulty.

It was essential for class teachers, three of whom had shown much sincerity and perceptiveness about Maria, to be more involved, it says.

Of communications between schools and social service departments, the report suggests there may have been a lack of confidence between the professions. There may also have been a lack of proper confidence and understanding between social work officials and members of the public, such as neighbours.

Complaints about child cruelty commonly went to the NSPCC for historical reasons. That might be causing a general confusion in other cases, the report suggests.

It was possible that too much attention was placed in social

work on training the mother and not little on the stepfather. It is also suggested. The possibility of making better inquiries about a stepfather in comparable cases ought to be considered.

When courts are considering such cases, a report ought to be obtained from an independent social worker, to obviate divided perspectives in the social worker who is working for a department that has already made a recommendation. The foster-parents ought to have been in court.

Medical supervision under the supervision order proceedings was called into question. Miss Lees was greatly handicapped by not having the power to take the child forthwith to a doctor. She was dependent on Mrs Kepple's cooperation. Had the child carried on having the required examinations obligatory under the supervision order, her steady deterioration would have been picked up.

Miss Stevenson, in her dissenting report, emphasized the widespread family disputes in which the question of Maria Colwell's fostering became embroiled. Social workers, she said, thought it important for the child's emotional welfare to reduce these conflicts, but she suggested that with hindsight they might have been "over-optimistic."

Maria Colwell was treated for "depression" during the period when trial visits were being made to her mother with a view to returning her. The majority report criticized the social worker's failure to seek psychiatric opinion on the child. Miss Stevenson said: "She was acting quite responsibly in my view in the exercise of her professional judgment."

Miss Stevenson agreed that Miss Lees's investigation of the prospective stepfather was inadequate. But she was only conforming to standard social work practice in which there is room for improvement. It was unlikely any discoveries about the stepfather would have changed the original decision to allow the child's return.

There were some deplorable failures of communication, Miss Stevenson said, but she rejected the assumption that the responsibility lay with social workers entirely.

Furthermore, the depth of inspection by Miss Lees and Mrs Kirby was affected because they were overworked. Mrs Kirby was doing the work of two inspectors. Miss Lees had to take on a number of difficult cases, after the reorganization of the social work department, and had six children at physical risk under her supervision at the time. She did not think Maria Colwell was at physical risk. One wonders whether reports of anxiety social workers can bear.

The inquiry's terms of reference were to inquire into the

care and supervision provided by local authorities and other agencies in relation to Maria Colwell, and the coordination between them.

Mr Field-Fisher wrote to Mrs Castle, Secretary of State for Social Services, saying: "It is a matter of regret to the committee however, that we have been unable to reach agreement on certain matters." Much of the report had none the less been signed and agreed by all three.

Maria Colwell was beaten to death in January, 1973, at the council house in Brighton where she had lived since she was returned to her natural mother, Mrs Pauline Kepple. Her stepfather, William Kepple, is serving a sentence of eight years' imprisonment for her manslaughter.

East Sussex County Council was supervising the child on behalf of Brighton Borough Council, in whose area she was then technically living. The inquiry was in public after a proposed secret investigation by the county council had been scrapped in view of public protests. All the agencies involved were completely cooperative, the report emphasizes.

The inquiry examined two separate periods in Maria Colwell's life, the period with her foster-parents immediately after her birth, which ended in November, 1971, when the 1966 care order about her was revoked, and the rest of her life with her mother.

It was only over the report's account of the first period, in which the decision was taken to allow the child's return to Mrs Kepple, that Miss Stevenson wrote her dissenting report. She also disagreed with the way that final conclusions were presented, in so far as they parcelled out responsibility.

After Maria Colwell was born, the fifth of Mrs Kepple's (later Mrs Kepple) children by Raymond Colwell, the husband left home and died shortly afterwards.

Mrs Kepple then went "completely to pieces", the report says. "There was ample



Miss Diana Lees: Too many social welfare cases.

evidence (her) children were being consistently left alone, were neglected and dirty and that she was associating with numerous men."

As a result, the child was fostered by Mrs Cooper. Mrs Kepple's sister-in-law. She was taken back to her mother, neglected again, and formally placed with Mrs Cooper and her husband as foster-parents, while under the care of the local authority.

Miss Stevenson has reservations about the wisdom of the original decision. Mrs Kepple did not want Maria to be placed with Mrs Cooper and there were family feuds in the background. Her other four children were also put in care.

In April, 1970, Miss Diana Lees took over responsibility for Maria Colwell's case. The report said she had excellent academic and professional qualifications as well as hospital social work experience. But she lacked local authority social work experience. Her workload, in addition, was steadily increased until by 1972 she was carrying an average burden of 60 to 70 cases of all kinds, including children at physical risk.

Inevitably, a system of priorities had to be exercised for such a burden, and Maria Colwell could not receive absolute priority when it was not believed she was at physical risk.

Mrs Kepple met William Kepple, and said she wanted to move to a council house and have Maria back. The report notes that the child's fears for her security were roused by that. Even very small children possess sometimes a remarkable acuity as to the implications of both situations and conversations which adults ignore at their peril and at this time Maria was over five years of age.

After a visit to her mother by Maria, Miss Lees met Mr Kepple, the prospective stepfather, showed no understanding of or concern for the child. It was suggested, the majority report says, that such an attitude was common in that type of person, and showed only a cultural difference.

But, the report says, "such an apparent unconcern may mask a more sinister form of indifference which, after all, can pass through insensitivity and callousness to neglect and cruelty."

The report asks to what was Maria Colwell going if the care order was revoked. "From being an only (fostered) child, somewhat in the nature of a solitary ewe-lamb, possibly over-indulged but nicely mannered and well brought up, she was going to join her natural mother, whom she hardly knew, whose family her mother did not believe in restricting and which she was to enter as the eldest, provoking possible jealousies. Of

the man of the house virtually nothing was known."

Nevertheless, it would be wrong to ignore the fact that many "transplants", even when unprompted, did succeed.

The social workers involved realized that the best approach to such a "transplant" was the gradual transfer of roots. But the hostilities in the family made them think that was impossible, although they wanted to gain time.

It is obvious that not only the most careful consideration was given to the situation as they saw it on this occasion by the East Sussex social workers, but that they were determined to proceed with caution."

The report asks, however, was it really in Maria's best interests to be returned to her mother at all. What was the true cause and depth of the trauma which it was envisaged might occur?

The social workers placed great stress on the stable relationship between the Kepples. "But the plain fact is, apart from what Miss Lees was told by the Kepples themselves, neither of whom was a truthful or reliable person, nothing was known of Mr Kepple."

"His history, his family, his background, his pay packet, his habits, his character, his temperament, his health, his philosophy of life, all were unknown."

The majority report says criticism of professional practices from outside sources ought not to be inhibited. Law and medicine, both older professions, were not immune from outside criticism and were probably the better for it.

If social work practice might "offend against ordinary standards of social or moral concern or even appears to go against accepted tenets of common sense, it would be wrong not to indicate at least a hope that the practice should be scrutinized anew."

The acceptance of unduly high degrees of trauma in a child in the process of being transplanted came under that category.

The Department of Health and Social Security has been forced to issue the report in limited numbers because it cannot be printed and published normally by the Stationery Office because of the printing dispute.

As a result, no one except the press and parties directly involved will be able to read the report in full until the dispute is resolved. Nor was it possible for newspapers to study the report in advance.

Mrs Castle's ambition that everyone interested should be able to study all the findings cannot yet be realized. Unlike a royal commission, the inquiry was asked to produce not recommendations but only an analysis.

Leading article, page 15

Appointments Vacant also on page 13

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

MacQuarie University
SYDNEY, AUSTRALIA

LECTURER IN PHILOSOPHY

Applications are invited for appointment to a Lecturer in Philosophy in the School of Philosophy, Macquarie University, Sydney. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching and supervising students in the field of philosophy.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the University and the position of Lecturer in Philosophy may be obtained from the Registrar, Macquarie University, Sydney 2000, or from the Department of Philosophy, Macquarie University, Sydney 2000.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of the West Indies—Trinidad

Lectureship in Education

Applications are invited for a Lectureship in Education at the University of the West Indies, Trinidad. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching and supervising students in the field of education.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the University and the position of Lecturer in Education may be obtained from the Registrar, University of the West Indies, Trinidad, or from the Department of Education, University of the West Indies, Trinidad.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

University of Glasgow

MRC GENERAL CIRCULATION

Applications are invited for the post of Physiologist

to the MRC General Circulation Unit at the University of Glasgow. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching and supervising students in the field of physiology.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the University and the position of Physiologist may be obtained from the Registrar, University of Glasgow, Glasgow, or from the Department of Physiology, University of Glasgow, Glasgow.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

London School of Economics

University of London

Applications are invited for appointment to a date to be

agreed with the appointee. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching and supervising students in the field of economics.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the University and the position of Lecturer in Economics may be obtained from the Registrar, London School of Economics, London, or from the Department of Economics, London School of Economics, London.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

UNIVERSITY APPOINTMENTS

NEW ZEALAND

UNIVERSITY OF CANTERBURY

Applications are invited for the following positions closing

on 27 September 1974. The successful candidate will be responsible for teaching and supervising students in the field of biology.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the University and the position of Lecturer in Biology may be obtained from the Registrar, University of Canterbury, Christchurch, or from the Department of Biology, University of Canterbury, Christchurch.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

Secretarial and General Appointments also on pages 24 and 26

SECRETARIAL

PERSONNEL ASSISTANT

Wanted for food company. Job involves clerical duties, typing, and general office work. The successful candidate will be responsible for assisting the personnel manager.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the company and the position of Personnel Assistant may be obtained from the Personnel Manager, Food Company, London, or from the Department of Personnel, Food Company, London.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

SECRETARIAL

TALENTED TEMPS

Be appreciated and enjoy better working conditions with better salaries. The successful candidate will be responsible for assisting the secretarial manager.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the company and the position of Talented Temps may be obtained from the Secretarial Manager, Talent Temps, London, or from the Department of Secretarial, Talent Temps, London.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

MANAGING DIRECTOR

of Advertising Agency seeks

P.A./SECRETARY

Well-educated and energetic to assist in the management of the agency. The successful candidate will be responsible for assisting the managing director.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the agency and the position of Managing Director may be obtained from the Managing Director, Advertising Agency, London, or from the Department of Advertising, Advertising Agency, London.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

FILM COMPANY, W.I.

RECEIPTS

Requirements experienced, efficient

Secretary for film company. The successful candidate will be responsible for assisting the secretary.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the company and the position of Secretary may be obtained from the Secretary, Film Company, London, or from the Department of Secretarial, Film Company, London.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

SECRETARIAL

£2,200 P.A. PLUS L.V.S

Two Secretaries

required for Partners of an engineering, value and estate agency close to Victoria Station. Phone Andrea Smith, Geo. 190100 or 205 1009.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the company and the position of Secretaries may be obtained from the Partners, Engineering, Value and Estate Agency, London, or from the Department of Secretarial, Engineering, Value and Estate Agency, London.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

GREAT OPPORTUNITY

for young sec. who would like interesting, prestige job in W.I. area. Free lunches. Please ring or call in before 5 p.m.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the company and the position of Great Opportunity may be obtained from the Partners, Engineering, Value and Estate Agency, London, or from the Department of Secretarial, Engineering, Value and Estate Agency, London.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

SECRETARIAL

ARCHITECTS

SOUTH KENSINGTON

Require Secretary. Salary negotiable. IF YOU WISH TO WORK IN A SECRETARIAL OFFICE PLEASE PHONE 204 9025.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the company and the position of Secretary may be obtained from the Architects, South Kensington, London, or from the Department of Secretarial, Architects, South Kensington, London.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

P.A./SECRETARY

Expanding West End Consulting Firm. Confidential. Salary negotiable. From 22,000 upwards. Please call 01-637 0123.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the company and the position of P.A./Secretary may be obtained from the Partners, Engineering, Value and Estate Agency, London, or from the Department of Secretarial, Engineering, Value and Estate Agency, London.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

SECRETARY TO CHAIRMAN

St. James's own town, pleasant and cheerful atmosphere. Interesting work, good pay and benefits. For details, please call 01-637 0123.

It is hoped that the appointee will be able to take up duties in March 1975 in time for the commencement of teaching in March.

Salary will be within the range \$20,000 to \$21,320 per annum, plus superannuation.

Further information about the company and the position of Secretary to Chairman may be obtained from the Partners, Engineering, Value and Estate Agency, London, or from the Department of Secretarial, Engineering, Value and Estate Agency, London.

Applications close on 27 September, 1974.

THE CHANGE YOU'LL GET FROM 2P IS STUNNING!

We're ACORN and we're jobbing. We're looking for a Secretary to our Chairman. For details, please call 01-637 0123.

MARIA COLWELL REPORT

Blame put on failure of communications in welfare services

The following are the conclusions of the inquiry team, chaired by Mr Thomas Field-Fisher, QC, into the death of Maria Colwell.

From the narrative of events covering the whole of Maria's life it can be seen that her findings necessarily involve the disclosure of many mistakes, both of commission and omission by many of those individuals who were responsible from time to time for her welfare in some degree. Nevertheless, it must be realized that the failure to prevent the death of Maria was not the result of any single error or errors, but of a complex of many factors, some of which were obvious with the advantage of hindsight and, moreover, it is impossible to say that any human activity in which human beings are engaged is perfectly understandable, fallibility does not play a part. If there were errors, and there were, they were of varying degrees of importance. They must all be put into perspective. What has clearly emerged from the inquiry is that the failure of Maria over her whole life was correct, effective and the product of mistakes made by many different individuals working with her in various capacities.

There was no question at any time in our view of anyone deliberately shirking a task; there was no shortage of devotion to duty. What has clearly emerged, at least to us, is a failure of system compounded of several factors, of which the greatest and most obvious must be the lack of, or ineffectiveness of, communication and liaison. A system should be as far as possible able to absorb individual errors and yet function adequately.

It follows that in assessing responsibility for the state of affairs disclosed in the narrative we think it quite impossible, and indeed unfair, to lay the direct blame for such inadequacies in the care and supervision of Maria upon any individual or indeed upon any small group of individuals. Many of the mistakes made by individuals were either the result of, or were contributed to, by inefficient systems operating in several different fields, notably training, administration, planning, liaison and supervision.

It is at the middle and higher levels that this case has clearly shown to us that a great deal of rethinking about child care is overdue. In addition, the ability of social work agencies to carry out their tasks properly depends not merely upon the sheer physical capacity of their workers to cope with ever-increasing case loads, which raises immediate financial and recruitment questions, but also upon the drawing up of efficient systems within which those workers can work to the best of their capacity.

The overall impression created by Maria's sad history is that while individuals made mistakes it was "the system", using the word in the widest sense, which failed her. Because that system is the product of society it is upon society as a whole that the ultimate blame must rest; indeed, the highly emotional and angry reaction of the public in this case may indicate society's troubled conscience. It is not the task of the state or representing society to assume responsibility for those such as Maria. It must also provide the means to do so, both financial and by ensuring that the system works as efficiently as possible at every level so that individual mistakes, which must be accepted as inevitable, do not result in disaster.

Having said that, however, it

seems to us that certain local authorities and agencies in Maria's case cannot escape censure because they must accept responsibility for the errors and omissions of their workers; because they are responsible for their supervision, and because at all levels of welfare competence they failed to devise efficient and, so far as is humanly possible, fail-safe systems.

In assessing such responsibility East Sussex, Brighton and the Hove City Council, and the Social Services Department of East Sussex, are primarily responsible because at all material times Maria was their direct charge. And in our view it is not possible to summarize the following findings, the detail of which having, we hope, emerged clearly in the course of the inquiry, as follows:

- (1) They took the decision not to oppose revocation of the care order in 1971 upon insufficient evidence and upon a misapprehension of the facts.
- (2) They made no attempt to gain time for the better testing of the suitability of Maria's return to her mother.
- (3) They failed to monitor the result of that return with sufficient care.
- (4) They failed to react correctly or with a due sense of urgency to the incident in April, 1972.
- (5) They failed entirely to supervise Maria between June 1 and December 1, 1972.

So far as Brighton are concerned, although the supervision order was nominally in their name, their responsibility is not substantially lower than that of East Sussex. In our view it may be expressed as follows:

- (1) They failed to coordinate essential information between their education department and either their own social services department or that of East Sussex.
- (2) They failed to press for the mid-1972 report on Maria from East Sussex either then or at any time thereafter.
- (3) Their housing department failed to pass vital information to their social services department in November, 1972, with any sense of urgency.

The NSPCC bore no direct statutory responsibility for Maria and it is always relevant to remember their status as a charitable voluntary body. We are sure, however, that they would not wish to be judged by any lower standard than that which they have set themselves in the directives to their staff. We think in this case they fell below their own expected standards in the following respects:

- (1) There were serious faults in their messages and communications system. These they have already taken steps to correct.
- (2) There was a serious initial misreading of the incident in April, 1972.
- (3) There were instances of complaints which were not investigated in accordance with their laid-down directives.

So far as the police involvement in Maria's case is concerned this was of course minimal before her death and in neither of the instances in which they were called in was this directly because of Maria herself. On the first occasion the officer involved was astute enough to suggest reference to the social services but was wrongly overruled. On the second occasion, we think it regrettable that information about the November 5 incident was not passed on to the social services department. To that very limited extent only can any criticism be levelled at the Sussex Police Authority.

Miss Stevenson explains where she dissents

This is the letter to Mrs Casle from Miss Olive Stevenson, Reader in Applied Social Studies at Oxford University. Miss Stevenson, one of the three members of the Maria Colwell Inquiry, submitted a minority report.

I submit herewith my report dealing with the period of Maria's life from her birth until she returned to the care of her mother. I regret, as do my colleagues, that it was not possible to present to you an agreed version of that period. You will see, however, that I differ very considerably from my colleagues in the interpretation of Maria's situation and the social workers' actions during those years.

As a former social worker in child care, I have had constantly in mind the possible impact of this report on relations between natural and foster-parents in this country and thus on the children involved. These relationships are often complicated and highly charged emotionally. In Maria's case, they were particularly so because of the network of relatives. In my view it can only do harm to children in care or under supervision if these issues are oversimplified; and this I believe my colleagues have done. What is more, it is unjust to the social workers if a picture is presented which does not convey adequately the interaction of the many factors which were painstakingly considered in planning for Maria. This in turn may affect public confidence unjustifiably in those to whom society entrusts children in care.

I would like to add a rider to that part of the report which I have agreed with my colleagues. Time and again we have had to refer to failures of communication. However, as our comments section demonstrates, responsibility

for effective communication in our welfare state is a two-way affair. The social workers who bore the ultimate responsibility for Maria's care and supervision had a right to receive information from their colleagues in other disciplines as well as a duty to convey it. Neither can such responsibility rest only with professionals and officials. Of the many residents of Brighton who came forward at the inquiry, very few had voiced their anxieties to the appropriate persons at the material times. It is most disturbing to contemplate the amount of concern and anxiety about Maria which never reached Miss Lees.

In my report I have referred to, but not dwelt upon, the impact of the reorganization of the local authority social services upon the East Sussex social workers and the part this may have played in certain failures in supervision. Of necessity we have referred frequently in the report to a particular social worker, Miss Lees. I am sure, however, that most social workers in the local authority service would say, if they were asked, there but for the Grace of God went I.

Every field-level social worker was placed at risk of such a tragedy by the organizational upheaval consequent upon the reorganization and the sharp increase in the volume of work, partly, but not entirely, due to new legislation for which there was not a commensurate increase in trained staff.

It is to be hoped that Maria's death and the grievous distress that it has caused, not least to the social workers involved, notably Miss Lees, will prompt urgent consideration of the stresses upon the profession and the ever increasing expectations of it, especially since we are now in the throes of yet more reorganization.

Miss Stevenson's report appears as Chapter 5 of the report.

BRITISH ASSOCIATION

Filter for extracting paraquat in blood

From Pearce Wright Science Correspondent

Medical researchers are experimenting with a device to take paraquat and other poisons out of the blood stream, Professor John P. Paul, of Strathclyde University, said at Stirling yesterday.

He was describing preliminary experiments in improvements to conventional equipment for kidney treatments, to the British Association for the Advancement of Science.

In a discussion on artificial livers and other apparatus, he said that one project was aimed at removing, from the blood, poisons ranging from drug overdoses to dangerous chemicals.

The method depended on pumping blood over activated charcoal particles. Individual charcoal filters were designed to react with specific substances.

He listed the many difficulties in perfecting the methods, and said poison in the blood combined with natural constituents so that their removal might harm the person by destroying normal blood. But that type of filter had been successful in removing paracetamol in overdose conditions.

Paraquat was much more complicated. Trials in the laboratory had been restricted to special solutions using animal blood and encouraging results led to more detailed testing.

'Pill' in shops and toleration for lesbians urged

From a Staff Reporter

Toleration for lesbians and the sale of contraceptive pills in supermarkets and bars were urged by a population expert. "There seems no reason to pillory the lesbian and make her the object of opprobrium and derision," he said.

"Women's rights should form an important part of the national population policy. Emancipated women might decide not to marry, or to marry late in life. Women's rights would tend to promote small families. Society might in the long run come to admire the spinster."

Dr John Loraine, member of the Medical Research Council department of social medicine, Edinburgh University, said of the pill: "It is a safe drug, a good deal safer than aspirin, and carries a good deal less risk than, for example, cigarette smoking."

"The abortion law should remain liberal and I should like to see a great increase in facilities for male and female sterilization within the health service. In the underdeveloped world as well as the developed world there is evidence of a new wave of female radicalism."

Dr Loraine, who returned last month from a world population conference in Bucharest, said there should be propaganda so that large families would be regarded only as evidence of social irresponsibility.

He continued: "We feel that voluntary measures for population control should be introduced with maximum speed. This would cover a wide extension of the contraceptive service. In Britain as in other parts of the world the contraceptive pill should be taken off medical prescription."

He was outraged by rich

countries; orgy of protectionism, with tariff barriers, customs duties and import quotas against the third world. In Calcutta 500,000 people slept in the streets. The developed world occupied 20 per cent of the earth but consumed 80 per cent of the resources.

Throughout most of the third world family-planning programmes had failed to control population growth.

He said the United Kingdom was ninth in the world population league. England and Wales with 233 people to the square kilometre were joint fourth, with The Netherlands behind Bangladesh, Taiwan and South Korea. By the year 2000 the United Kingdom population was projected to be up from 56 million to 63 million. But fortunately the birth rate in Britain continued to fall.

About four million people were affected by gross forms of malnutrition. The basic resources for food—land, water, energy and fertilizer—were no longer abundant.

However, sharply contrasting with Dr Loraine's note of pessimism, Dr David McKinlay, reader in the department of civil engineering, Strathclyde University, said man's lot had never been better. There were great and growing resources in science and technology to help deprived nations, and our capacity could be extended, even using existing knowledge.

Mr Nicholas Fairbairn, QC, said there had been shortages of oil and sugar leading to hoarding. "As we can see in Britain today, social cohesion breaks under the strain of a shortage of resources. A good example at the moment in Britain is money, of which there is a shortage."

Gravitational waves under study

From Our Science Correspondent

A totally new idea of communication by transmitting information on gravity waves directly through the centre of the earth was raised as a possibility by Dr R. W. P. Drever, of the Department of Natural Philosophy, Glasgow University, in an account to the British Association of progress on gravitational wave astronomy.

Although it was suggested at a meeting of the physics section of the British Association, it has to be placed rather more in the realm of science fiction

than in fact, since there is great controversy about the existence of the so-called gravitational waves.

Elaborate apparatus has been built at some of the big research centres to try to detect these waves, which are believed to flow across the universe in much the same way as light energy flows from the enormous energetic disturbances in the stars and galaxies.

The limited success in observing these waves is far from conclusive about demonstrating their existence. However, at the opening of the meeting, Professor Sir Hermann Bondi, chief scientific adviser, Ministry of

Defence, picked his way through the minefield of argument about gravitational physics to show why modern theory supports the idea of energy being pushed into the universe in addition to light waves and radio waves emitted by disturbances.

Professor Bondi in his former academic sphere was an internationally renowned cosmologist and physicist. He explained how events needed to generate gravitational waves would have to be really big in the universe, associated with such phenomena as black holes, pulsars and binary stars. Only gigantic disturbances would be noticed easily, he said.

TV stimulates violence, professor says

A warning of the effects on the young of television violence was given in a presidential address by Professor B. M. Foss, of the Department of Psychology at London University.

He said that realistic televised aggression prompted children to aggression, and if society continually generated news-worthy violence non-aggressive boys with "well-socialized aggression inhibitions" would be disturbed and incited to the violence which was portrayed as a social norm.

Personality test yields an index of frustration

From Our Science Correspondent

The different levels of frustration experienced by various kinds of personality were described to the British Association at Stirling yesterday by Dr John Nicholson, of Reading University.

In a lecture entitled "Frustration, Development and the Physiological Basis of Personality," he described experiments to measure characteristics of personality showing how frustrated people became when faced with difficulties.

His team examined their subjects in four categories: the extreme neurotics; the exceptionally stable and easy-going people; introverts, who are placid, unsocial and pessimistic; and the extroverts with an active, social and impulsive disposition.

In one experiment, children were seated before a screen on to which pictures were projected. A lever would deliver sweets when the child pressed the lever correctly according to the screen image. Developments of this contraption rewarded the individual with shoppers' stamps.

By such steps the psychologists had drawn up an index for assessing behaviour and personality. Dr Nicholson said. Although the theory was involved, the interpretation of results was clear-cut and showed a link between susceptibility to frustration and the introverts and neurotics.



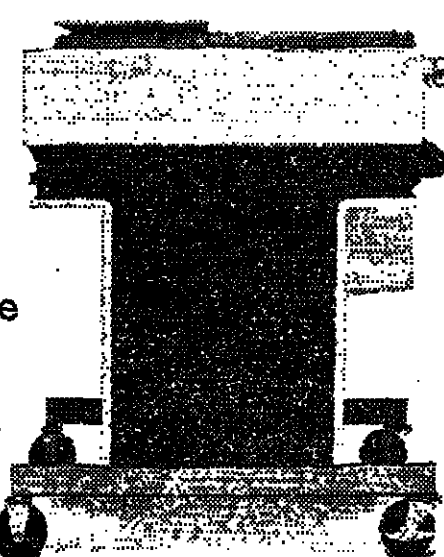
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Government plans to bring in new laws soon

Dr Owen, Minister of State for Health, said yesterday that there was no doubt there had been big errors of judgment in the Maria Colwell case. But he added in a BBC radio *The World at One* interview: "In the last analysis you simply can't have any system which can cope with the type of behaviour which was exhibited to this poor little girl."

Changes could be made to improve child care and legislation. The Government hoped to introduce new laws early in the autumn.

"It is a tragic case, and there is no doubt there have been major errors of judgment, but I think you have to look at the particular family involved," he said.

It is easy when the situation shows a complete and very tragic breakdown like this to point the finger at individuals. That is not what should be done. We should look at society itself. We should ask ourselves some of the deeper questions that underlie this case. One of them must be a question of resources."

The British Association of Social Workers said the report was moving child care and legislation. "Social workers, like doctors, have to exercise professional judgment in making decisions which are often complex and difficult. Society has a right to demand that they should use their best skills, but it cannot demand that they will always be right."

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TRADES UNION CONGRESS

AUEW drops attack on social contract after Murray appeal

From Our Parliamentary Staff
Brighton

A last-minute withdrawal of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers' motion opposing the social contract prevented a divided vote yesterday on the contract after a two-hour debate which showed up the differences between majority and minority views in the Trades Union Congress at Brighton.

Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, who opened the debate on the contract, said the eight points of the AUEW motion would be embodied in the policies the general council would pursue with the Government, and he repeated the appeal already made by speakers in the debate for the motion to be withdrawn.

The debate took place on the general council report and its document, *Collective Bargaining and the Social Contract*, and on three motions.

The first was a composite motion moved by the National Union of Mineworkers, giving full support to the efforts of the TUC and the Government towards solving the economic difficulties facing Britain, which formed the basis of a social contract.

Among immediate objectives were the reduction of the effects of inflation; maintenance of full employment; preservation of the standard of living and the strengthening and expansion of the economy.

The motion went on to express belief in free collective bargaining and recognised that no statutory or compulsory policy on incomes could solve the difficulties facing the trade union movement.

The second motion, moved by Mr Geoffrey Dray, secretary of the National and Local Government Officers' Association, affirmed the belief that support of the trade union movement for a progressive economic policy covering prices, profits and all forms of income must depend upon the firm rejection of statutory and government interference with voluntary

collective bargaining and the acknowledgment that wage restraint was not a solution to economic difficulties.

It declared that any future policy affecting income development agreed by the TUC and the Government must be preceded by adequate consultation within the TUC and must seek to improve the real living standards of all sectors of workers.

It must also be recognized that wages and salaries should reflect the value of different skills and responsibilities and provide for the resolution of public sector pay difficulties.

The report and both motions were passed on a show of hands, with some voting against. The third motion, moved by the AUEW's technical, administrative and supervisory section, recognised the evils of inflation but rejected the theory that wage rises were a main contributory factor. It therefore declared that a social compact could be accepted by trade unionists only when substantial progress had been made on the items comprising an alternative strategy agreed by the TUC-Labour Party Liaison Committee. These were:

A large-scale redistribution of income and wealth; a big increase in housebuilding, with the emphasis on homes for those in need and for those in lower social mobility; public ownership of land required for the housing programme; a wide-ranging and permanent system of price control; vastly improved social services by injection of the necessary resources; a substantial increase in public ownership and public enterprise, coupled with public supervision of investment policies of large corporations; substantial cuts in defence expenditure to release resources to help to carry through that programme.

This motion was withdrawn at the end of the debate.

Diary, page 14
Leading article, page 15

Some policy on incomes is crucial, miners insist

Mr Lawrence Daly, secretary of the National Union of Mineworkers, moved a motion supporting the social contract and the arguments for it presented by Mr Murray.

He said: "We made every possible endeavour to reach agreement with our friends in the engineering union, but the difficulty was that it was not the social contract, which is only the beginning of cooperation on economic and social policies with the Government, essential to the achievement of the objectives they are seeking. The difficulty is that they are laying it down as conditional. This we cannot accept."

The AUEW's motion called for a large-scale redistribution of income and wealth. "This I want as well as anyone in this congress, but I do not see how one can achieve the large-scale redistribution of income if you do not have some kind of incomes policy. That is why we will be voting against their motion."

Mr Daly added: "It will be essential, and I appreciate the difficulty some of the affiliated unions are in which have no connection with the Labour Party, to ensure that when the election comes that we return to the government with an overall majority so that it can get out of the difficulties in which it has been placed by the unholy alliance of Tories, Liberals, Unionists and social nationalists."

"In placing our original motion on the agenda, the miners were not only mindful of the need for a constructive economic and social strategy, but we were responding sincerely to a government which on the morrow of the election gave the miners the opportunity to win and reduce the unemployment and get the miners back to work, and set away from the destructive and divisive policies of Heath and his tatterdemalion crew."

"I have never in my life appealed for blind loyalty, but it is only a Labour Government which can ensure the creation of a truly democratic socialist society. By supporting the social contract we can find a way towards the economic and fundamentally important objective."

Mr John Phillips, Union of Shop, Distributive and Allied Workers, seconded the motion. He said the discussions which took place between the Labour Party and the TUC leading up to the agreement on certain aspects of action by the Labour Government marked a wholly new dimension in legitimate union activity.

The basic issue was how to secure a distribution of income and

wealth in line with union social priorities and objectives.

Inflation was now running at about 16 per cent and there was a balance of payments crisis. This made it vitally important that in meeting this situation the country had a government that would ensure that any burdens were spread evenly and that it would be unjust to expect society to be pulled out of its present difficulties by sacrifices of the ordinary working men and women.

The Labour Government had undertaken to follow social and economic policies in the interests of the ordinary people and not the privileged few.

Mr Geoffrey Dray, secretary of the National and Local Government Officers' Association (NALGO), moved a motion rejecting government interference in voluntary collective bargaining.

He said that the Government did not have to say it was operating a statutory incomes policy to make a real impact on the fortunes of its members.

When the present arrangements with the Labour Government were being worked out, his union found itself in a difficult position because of a series of statutory policies going back a long time, his members had fallen behind substantially in relation to employment and areas in which they could rightly compare themselves.

When Labour came to power his union had a pay claim which could appear high and difficult to settle, but the payment of a London weighting allowance.

He said that difficulty coming to terms with the new government, not because they opposed it politically, but because of policies they just could not go along with. They showed less than appropriate understanding of the long-standing London weighting issue and pursued a policy of resistance after it had outlived its usefulness.

His union wanted it stated firmly that they would have no part in any policy which would be based on certain points important to them on the record.

Between September 1968 and April 1973 earnings of manual workers in real terms increased by 10.7 per cent compared with only 5.5 per cent for non-manual workers. This was a staggering difference.

He called for a more personal type of non-transferable tax-exemption certificate and asked the powers for tax officers. The congress carried a motion condemning the unfairness of the PAYE system, which gave the self-employed ample scope for evasion.

Jeers for American view

Some TUC delegates heckled and protested when Mr Max Green, a former member of the Federation of the Trades Union Congress and Congress of Industrial Organizations, described détente as another play of the Soviet Union when he addressed the congress.

He acknowledged that the TUC and the AFL-CIO did not see eye to eye on the role of the respective organizations should play in the arena of international affairs. There were interruptions when he asked: "Where was détente when the East Germans again blocked the land access to Berlin

Call to end 'atrocities in name of economy'

From Our Education Correspondent

Over greater cuts in education would have to be implemented by local education authorities unless the Government intervened, Mr James Cawfield, president of the National Union of Teachers, told the congress.

He asked: "Can a Labour Government possibly stand by and allow this to happen? What about its promises for a vast expansion of nursery education and help for deprived schoolchildren? Only positive government intervention could help."

Already, he said, "a catalogue of atrocities has been committed on education in the name of economy. Local authorities were employing less than there were teachers. One deliberately had employed 215 below 'quota'."

Other authorities were having to cut down by as much as 30 per cent on day-day running costs in spite of galloping inflation. Many children in new towns were not returning to school this term. Mr Cawfield explained that this was because of a planning error and there was no school for them to go to except for a 100-year-old building condemned by the authority over a year ago. Children all over the country were working in conditions which would not be tolerated by factories.

The education cuts of £182m imposed by the Conservative Government last December had been the worst in living memory, even worse than in the years of depression in the 1930s. But Mr Cawfield said that the Labour Government for not honouring a pre-election pledge to restore the cuts in the teacher training programme.

An original target of 510,000 teachers by 1981 was slashed by the Conservatives to 465,000 because of a falling birth rate. The National Union of Teachers maintained that there would be classes in secondary schools of over 30 pupils and in primary schools to over 40 unless there were 570,000 by 1981.

Congress called unanimously on the Government to reverse the cuts in educational expenditure to halt the cut back in teacher training and to plan for an increased level of educational expenditure. Other motions passed called for compulsory day release at colleges of further education for all young workers and a better deal for deprived and handicapped students.

Miss Diana Warwick, Civil and Public Services Association, called for special teaching in trade unionism in schools.

This should be done by local trade union officers talking to schools and through a special school package on trade unionism prepared possibly through the Schools Council.

She said there were many schoolchildren who did not even know that there were teachers' members of a union. Most of them when they got jobs knew next to nothing of the role or organisation of the unions.

TUC chief urges acceptance of self-restraint as way of breaking shackles around unions

The social contract was the only way forward that stood any chance of success, Mr Len Murray, general secretary of the TUC, said yesterday in a speech to the congress. He said that the section of the general council's report on economic policy, collective bargaining and the social contract.

He said that the Government could do nothing to a large extent but by what the TUC were prepared to do, he said. The Government and the TUC, and the unions would have to work together. "One of the TUC's prices would be what happened to prices, profits, dividends and the level of unemployment, the decision of how the fruits of that economic advance are to be shared out."

Mr Murray said: "The practical issue before congress was how quickly it could win for its members the improvements in wages and living standards that they looked to their unions to provide. For that they needed unity. There was a unity of opposition to counter the threat of the Industrial Relations Act."

Now they needed a unity for achievement, a positive unity. Although the IRLA had been reversed, the decision of the Conservatives to force into the new Act objectionable and disruptive provisions, was a warning that the unions were still being threatened from that front. It was a reminder that there was still unfinished business to clear up.

Adversity could be overcome by cooperation, but not by policies of confrontation. The difficulties caused by technological change had to be sorted out by management and workers, by discussion and the operation of voluntary collective bargaining.

They could not be solved by putting shackles on unions, or by rigid statutory wage restraints. Mr Murray said his heart was with the unions. He said that the unions were free to vote against the idea of accepting any self-imposed limitations on their freedom of action.

It was too difficult. If they believed that they should vote against the policy as a whole, because it was a vision. If congress voted for it, the trade union movement and the Labour Government would be looking to unions for a response in what they did.

Economic austerity means little to spare for wage rises, Mr Crosland says

From Our Labour Staff

In a campaigning speech, Mr Crosland, Secretary of the Labour Party for the Environment, said the coming election would be fought in the face of two years of economic austerity without precedent in the past 25 years.

Speaking to a meeting of the Fabian Society at Brighton, he said: "In this situation we shall make no attempt to oust the Tories on rates or mortgages or anything else. We face a tough two years, in which our guiding principle will be fair shares and social justice, and not pie-in-the-sky promises."

One thing that could not be offered was a massive rise in money wages, Mr Crosland said. Although he did not take an apocalyptic view of the economic situation Britain certainly



The main contenders in yesterday's social contract debate. Top, Mr Hugh Scanlon; left, Mr Len Murray; right, Mr Lawrence Daly.

Engineers say living standards are threatened

Mr Kenneth Gill, secretary of the technical, administrative and supervisory section of the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers, who was elected yesterday to the general council as the first Communist for some years, moved the motion opposing the social contract. He said that his union wanted a strong Labour Government and would fight to the utmost for its return.

The AUEW's struggle against the legislation of the crude bigness who made up the Tory party was well-known. The union still bore some of the scars.

"I view with profound distrust the Tory press advice to Labour on how to win the election with the social contract. Everyone in congress should be suspicious of advice from that quarter. When did they want the return of a Labour Government?"

In the general council's document, *Collective Bargaining and the Social Contract*, appeared the new cure: "No compulsion this time, but instead of their refusing to do us any harm."

The difference between TUC policy under Tory and Labour administrations might appear to be we have restraint under Heath but we have no restraint under Wilson."

Mr Gill said that for the time being it must be accepted that the standard of living would not simply remain static but decline. There was bad enough from the old times, but Mr Callaghan had yesterday confirmed it was the new cure: "No compulsion this time, but instead of their refusing to do us any harm."

It was also about the relationships between the TUC and affiliated unions. It was about the relationship between the TUC and the Government.

Mr Murray continued: "We want a government whose policies will make it possible for unions to achieve their objectives, and to which we can respond, in our own interests. There are limits to what any government can do for us and to what we can do for a government."

Nalco motion condemns spending cuts

A motion condemning the Conservatives' public expenditure cuts last December as detrimental to the quality of life in Britain, the quality of services provided and the interests of staffs providing them was carried.

Mr Edward Alderton, National and Local Government Officers' Association, moving it, said it was ridiculous that there should be people in Britain so poor that they thought that if they are smacked about they would get long cancer, and that the way in which a surgeon laid eggs was beyond them. The wealth of a nation was in its people, and mainly in the people the TUC represented.

Mr J. Morris, secretary, Customs and Excise Group, seconded, said that the Government's policy of reducing value-added tax, reducing shop prices, but tax evasion could be reduced only by more effective control and that could be exercised only if there were enough staff to do it.

Clash over demand for minimum £30 wage

From Raymond Fernman
Brighton

The TUC began to put flesh on the bones of the social contract yesterday with a demand for a £30 basic minimum wage for men and women. There was a clash between union leaders on how it should be achieved, Mr Jack Clarke, secretary of the Transport and General Workers' Union, called for a big un-ordinated campaign by unions with the backing of the Labour Government to end low pay by collective bargaining.

The £30 demand was not extravagant, it was not inflationary, Mr Clarke said. It was a wage above the poverty line. "It is critical for an employer to pay less than the state pays to a man out of work and in need," he said.

Exploitation was rife in agriculture, manufacturing, among the disabled and immigrant workers. "The problem cries out for action. I am calling for action," he said. Unions should help low-paid workers organise and the TUC should press for an amendment to the Employment Protection Act to enable trade unions to go orders forcing employers to pay the minimum wage.

Mr Alan Fisher, general secretary of the National Union of Public Employees, rejected that approach as inadequate. He called for annual negotiations by the TUC, the Confederation of British Industries and the Government to set a minimum wage which would be enforceable at law. He described it as a neat, clean method, but it did not receive the support of the congress.

"We think that our method is much more effective than the shabby one that has been in congress policy for the last seven years, a policy which has had no effect on low pay," Mr Fisher said.

Mr David Bassett, general secretary of the National Union of General and Municipal Workers, spoke of the shame of the low-paid workers in the government and the shame of the National Health Service, of nurses, of Remploy and of local authorities, which were only touching £25 a week.

But the low-paid workers also present in high-paid industries, he added. In printing, 9 per cent of workers earned less than £25 a week. In engineering it was 10 per cent and in chemicals 5 per cent.

"Now is not the moment to bring in a single simple solution of a statutory minimum wage. Every economic policy has had its objective the solving of the low-paid problem. The results have been exactly the opposite, each income policy has widened the differential," Mr Bassett said.

There was a role for government, but only as a buttress for collective bargaining. "We should make it clear from the start that the state's attitude in forthcoming negotiations for workers in local government, the National Health Service and public utilities is crucial to the low-paid problem."

WEST EUROPE

Farmers plan protest demonstrations throughout the Nine

From Richard Wigg
Paris, Sept 4

Farmers' leaders from throughout the European Community decided today in Paris to stage demonstrations in each of the nine countries on September 15, the day the council of agricultural ministers meets again in Brussels. The demonstrations are intended to back up a demand for increases of at least 8 per cent in Community farm prices from October 1.

Today's meeting, termed a "European summit", was attended by 15 organizations, including Britain's National Farmers' Union. A joint statement issued afterwards said frankly that the aim was to put pressure on the EEC Commission and the governments into granting more than the all-round increase of 4 per cent which has been proposed by the Commission and which divided the agricultural ministers of the Nine at yesterday's meeting.

The farmers' leaders said the demonstrations would recall to public opinion the role played by European agriculture in providing regular and moderately priced food products. The governments of the Nine were warned of the danger that "impoverished and discouraged" farmers might abandon the production of certain foodstuffs.

M. Michel Debatist, president of the French federation of farmers' unions, who called today's meeting, argues that the proposed 4 per cent increase is quite unrealistic, when account is taken of inflation during the past six months as reflected in higher bills for fertilizers, fuel and animal foodstuffs.

The French farmers who have been staging various types of demonstrations for weeks are likely to descend into the streets again in strength. M. Christian Bonnet, the French Minister of Agriculture has indicated support for his farmers' view that 4 per cent is not enough.

Mr Richard Butler, deputy president of the NFU, speaking from today's meeting, said his organization had yet to decide on methods to arouse public opinion.

They did not want to block streets, he emphasized, but public opinion would be alerted to the basic problem, as British farmers saw it, of ensuring that any measures regarding prices were reflected in returns to the farmers.

The public must understand, he added, that shortages would develop, for instance, in beef

next year, unless a real floor was set now to farmers' earnings.

In Corsica the political parties, including the local branch of President Giscard d'Estaing's Independent Republicans, and the trade unions have joined the local farmers' union in a call for a general strike next Tuesday.

The French Cabinet agreed on a series of special measures for Corsica earlier this week. But the discontent also concerns the detention of six farmers' leaders on charges of disturbing the peace. Unless the six are released promptly, the strike will go forward, the Corsicans say.

Our Rome correspondent writes: The West German Opposition accused the Government of "pussyfooting" today in a first reaction to yesterday's meeting of ministers of agriculture in Brussels.

An Opposition spokesman described the results of the meeting as "inadequate and disappointing". The Government had obviously not pressed for increased farm prices, and its failure to do so, combined with its "pussyfooting" approach to nationalist special pleading by other Community members, had made "the helplessness of the Government" horribly clear.

The Government rejected the criticism as "incomprehensible and unjustified".

The Cabinet in Bonn discussed the Brussels talks at its regular weekly meeting today, but took no decisions. Farmers and their organizations were unanimous in expressing strong disapproval of the failure to raise farm prices, and issued warnings about further protest demonstrations.

Our Rome correspondent writes: Signor Paolo Bonomi, president of the Italian small farmers association, criticized the proposals put forward in Brussels. He said that a Community farm price system based partly on costs.

The proposed increases, he said, would be of little benefit to farmers if the price of fertilizers, fodder and machinery went up, as was generally feared.

He proposed that farm prices should be calculated in future according to a scale which took into account the cost of essential products, wages and other operating expenses. In this way the farmers' effective earnings would be stabilized, as in the case of workers whose wages were linked to the cost of living.

EEC summit waits on British election

From Our Own Correspondent
Paris, Sept 4

Reports in the French press that Paris might call a new European summit conference in the second half of October, have been described in authoritative quarters today as without foundation. M. André Rossi, the Government spokesman, stated after this morning's meeting of the Council of Ministers, that the time being no date had been set for such a summit.

This stands to reason. The French Government has not yet fully worked out its proposals for "putting Europe back on the rails". So far it has only reached the stage of ideas, which President Giscard d'Estaing put to Herr Helmut Schmidt, the West German Chancellor, at their informal meeting in Paris on Monday.

France also wants to consult its other partners in the Community, in order to avoid any impression that this

is going to be in any way a Franco-German "frame-up". Finally, it wishes to know the date of the British elections, before setting one for the summit.

In the hope that the new British Government will have a clear line of policy on Europe, it is fully appreciated here that a Labour victory with a comfortable majority may not remove the uncertainty, and that Mr Wilson may go on playing a relatively pro-European game abroad and an anti-European one at home so long as the so-called negotiation has not been concluded; but it is already quite clear that, once the elections are over and whether the new British Government likes it or not, France will put all its weight behind a new European initiative, confident that it has the full backing of West Germany.

The most likely timing of the summit is around the middle of November, in order to avoid clashing with the end of the year festivities.

Swiss villagers search forest for a 'tiger'

From Our Correspondent
Geneva, Sept 4

The people of Haldenstein, a village above Coire, in the Swiss Alps, are living in a state of apprehension. They believe there may be a "tiger" in the surrounding forest.

Three days ago, the carcass of a roe deer was found at risk. The local gamekeeper was examining it when he poked up and saw a full-grown "tiger" 400 yards away. It disappeared into bushes. He alerted the village, a hunting party as hurriedly assembled, got to the spot at dusk and started eating their way through the undergrowth.

They caught a glimpse of

"the tiger" on a rocky outcrop, against the light of the rising moon. It ran off through the rocks.

The deer carcass was left alone but has not been touched. Experts say the killing was certainly done by an animal much larger than the biggest dog.

Hunting parties have been out only, their members including a Zurich wild animal expert armed with a rifle firing a knock-out narcotic capsule.

While there is conjecture that the beast might be a jaguar or a lynx, the men who "saw the stripes on its back", are convinced that it is a tiger.

Disintegration of Norway's ruling party

From Our Correspondent
Oslo, Sept 4

The Norwegian Labour Party, which has dominated the country's politics since the 1930s and has been in power for most of the postwar period, is now slowly disintegrating. New men are jockeying for the leadership.

The chief editor of Arbeiderbladet, a party post, was dismissed without warning in March this year. At a meeting of the national executive last week, Mr Ronald Bye, the secretary-general, announced a decision to resign.

Mr Trygve Bratteli, the times Minister, who is also chairman of the party, has even told him that he will give up his chairmanship at the congress next year. There are several candidates for the chairmanship, but it is a wide open question who is going to

lead the party in the future. On this occasion, therefore, the chairman will be elected instead of coming into the line of succession, which has been the practice for many years.

Underlying everything are the smouldering feuds which arose over the issue of European Community membership. These reduced the Labour Party to minority status, and since the elections last year its position has steadily gone down, according to a series of opinion polls. There has been a period of self-criticism which occasionally has taken the form of open strife.

At last week's meeting of the executive, a Labour MP demanded the resignation of the Prime Minister, who subsequently was given a vote of confidence. Yet it is almost unheard of that anyone in a high party position should publicly

Panic sugar buying spreads to France

From Charles Hargrove
Paris, Sept 4

French housewives have been raiding sugar stores in supermarkets and shops, after a warning last weekend from the sugar beet growers that they had better make provision "for at least two months" because France runs the risk of running out of sugar very shortly.

English housewives living on the Channel coast, who have already experienced such shortages, have also been in the shops, taking day trips to France to fill their baskets with sugar from Boulogne or Calais.

A spokesman for Dover-Folkestone steamer commented wryly: "With all the sugar we have on board if we capsize we shall sink in a sea of syrup."

French shopkeepers are less than satisfied with these cross-Channel raids. "First they come to buy up our candles, then our toilet paper, and now our sugar," one of them remarked.

In the Seine Maritime region, the local grocers' association has called on its members not to supply customers with abnormal quantities of sugar. A Paris supermarket sold six tons of sugar yesterday while its normal sales are about half a ton daily.

Some retailers are going to supermarkets to replenish their own stocks.

"This panic is idiotic," one shop manager declared. "There has been a depletion of stocks, but by tomorrow they should be replenished."

The scare has been deliberately provoked by the sugar beet growers' confederation in an attempt to convince the European Commission to agree to an increase in the price of sugar in the Community, sufficient to encourage higher production.

In an interview to France-Soyeur today, M. Cayre, the president of the confederation, claimed that he was defending not only the interests of sugar beet growers but also of French consumers, against the blindness of the Brussels technocrats.

Community sugar policy is grotesque," he said. "Messrs Mansholt and Lardinois for humanitarian reasons, wished to reduce European sugar production in order to make room for imports from underdeveloped countries. But the result is that these countries prefer to sell their sugar at the world price of 5 francs a kilo rather than to deliver it to us in Europe at 2 francs a kilo. The Community is going to buy sugar at 6 or 7 francs rather than encourage sugar beet production which brings in foreign currency to buy oil."

In a letter published in Le Monde today, M. Cayre said: "The price of sugar in France is the lowest in the world. The pillaging of sugar stocks we see at our frontiers comforts us in our initiative to bring about an order to ensure that the EEC turns its back on Malibusianism and embarks resolutely on expansion."

M. Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the Minister of Finance, is reported to be fuming over this attempt to raise sugar beet growers to manipulate public opinion.

"When world prices were much lower than French ones, French taxpayers paid the difference," he said yesterday. "Today I regret that producers should have exploited the fear of consumers to serve their own interests. The ordinance of 1945 which provided for penalties for 'starvation of the people' is still in force. Will it be necessary to resort to it?"

Mr Maddox also said that Turks threw two hand grenades into a churchyard astride the "green line" dividing the Greek and Turkish sectors of Nicosia.

Miss Caballe is to undergo throat operation

Barcelona, Sept 4.—Montserrat Caballe, aged 41, the Spanish operatic star, is to undergo a throat operation in Barcelona on September 13.

In an interview here last night with a Spanish news agency, she said that the operation would not affect her singing.

Royal visitors see Helsinki

Helsinki, Sept 4.—Queen Juliana and Prince Bernhard of the Netherlands today walked around Helsinki's crowded South Harbour open air market and stopped for coffee at the same booth used by President Lyndon Johnson on his 1963 visit.

The royal couple, on the second day of their four-day official visit to Finland, began their day with a tour of Parliament.

OVERSEAS



The Prince of Wales speaks to Mrs Kirk after the funeral service in Wellington yesterday for Mr Norman Kirk, the New Zealand Prime Minister.

Prince at service for Mr Kirk

From Our Correspondent
Wellington, Sept 4

Thousands of New Zealanders stood in driving rain to pay their last respects to Mr Norman Kirk, the Prime Minister, who died on Saturday, as his funeral procession moved through the streets of Wellington today.

Earlier at an ecumenical service in St Paul's Cathedral, attended by the Prince of

Wales, representing the Queen's emissaries from abroad, members of the Cabinet, other dignitaries and members of the public, the Most Rev A. H. Johnston, Anglican Primate of New Zealand, spoke of Mr Kirk's lifelong desire to be of service to others.

The country has responded emotionally to Mr Kirk's death at 51 after 20 months in office. There have been moving scenes during the past two days as mourners, among them many Maoris, stood in long queues, often in rain, waiting to file past the coffin as the body lay in state in Parliament House.

Similar scenes were expected in Christchurch, Mr Kirk's

home city, where the body now lies at the town hall after having been flown from Wellington.

There will be a simple burial service tomorrow at Waimate, Mr Kirk's birthplace which is a small south island town.

Twenty-eight countries sent special representatives to today's funeral service. These were augmented by members of the diplomatic corps. Six prime ministers from the Pacific region, including Mr Gough Whitlam of Australia, attended. Mr Edward Short, Leader of the House of Commons, represented the British Government. The Prince of Wales was due to leave for Britain later tonight.

Grenade attack at Nicosia church

From Our Correspondent
Nicosia, Sept 4

Turkish troops advanced in violation of the 19-day-old ceasefire to overrun the Greek Cypriot village of Galini in north-west Cyprus, the Government announced today.

A United Nations peace force spokesman confirmed that the Greek Cypriot National Guard had lodged a protest after Turkish forces opened mortar and machine gun fire and then overran National Guard positions yesterday. But he declined to say whether Galini had been captured.

The spokesman also said that Turks threw two hand grenades into a churchyard astride the "green line" dividing the Greek and Turkish sectors of Nicosia.

Acting President Glafkos Clerides and the Turkish Cypriot leader, Mr Rauf Denkash, have welcomed impartial investigations by the United Nations and the International Red Cross.

The atrocity charges and counter charges also seemed to have blocked prospects of a continuation of talks between Mr Clerides and Mr Denkash on "humanitarian issues", a blanket theme which observers believe could lead to peace negotiations.

The Greek Cypriot side announced today that the total number of Greek Cypriots reported missing since the Turkish invasion is 3,189—National Guardsmen and civilians.

Leading article, page 15

Charges of fraud were today brought against Mrs Despina Papadopoulos, the wife of former President George Papadopoulos, the deposed dictator, by the public prosecutor in Athens. The charge carries a penalty of up to 10 years' imprisonment.

The action follows an inquiry into accusations that Mrs Papadopoulos drew a salary as a confidential secretary in the Central Intelligence Service (KYP) even after the 1967 coup, when she married the then Colonel Papadopoulos.

The sum involved exceeds £13,000.

Some 70 university professors purged during the dictatorship for political reasons have been reinstated by decree. All professors appointed by Government order during the dictatorship have been dismissed.

The Government is preparing another decree to reinstate judges dismissed by the junta and to remove those appointed during the previous regime.

The new Georgia rejects Mr Maddox as governor

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Sept 4

Mr Lester Maddox, former Governor of Georgia, has been defeated in an attempt to win the post. He was decisively beaten in the second round of the state Democratic primary election yesterday and Georgia thus turned its back on segregation.

Mr Maddox was elected governor in 1966 at the height of the race conflict of that decade. He gained fame when he announced that he would not obey the Civil Rights Act of 1964. He distributed pickaxe handles to his (white) customers to keep the blacks out.

His opponent in yesterday's primary, a member of the state legislature who had the support of Georgia blacks, moderates and the "new South" generally, distributed copies of an old photograph taken during those stirring days, showing Mr Maddox standing guard outside

his restaurant with a revolver in his hand. He finally closed it rather than admit blacks.

Mr Maddox is now Lieutenant-Governor of Georgia. He was not allowed to run for a second term in 1970 under the state constitution and ran for the second position instead.

The Governor, Mr James Carter, supported yesterday's victor, Mr George Busbee.

Mr Maddox campaigned in the old way, travelling the back roads of Georgia and proclaiming "O' Lester is here" and insisting that he was the representative of the "little man"—lower-class whites left behind by the startling economic progress Georgia has recently. It was to no avail.

The South has left Mr Maddox and his kind behind. The only surviving important politician whose position is based on his racial stand during the 1950s and 1960s is Governor George Wallace of Alabama—and even he has abandoned his old slogan "Segregation now, segregation for ever."

Emperor's aide among six held in Ethiopia

Addis Ababa, Sept 4.—Emperor Haile Selassie's private secretary was among six people arrested today on orders from the armed forces' coordinating committee, Ethiopia radio announced.

Mr Yohannes Kidane Mariam was said to be the last official remaining at the Emperor's side apart from members of the imperial family who are with him at the palace.

The 165 prominent officials now detained include all the close aides of the Emperor and members of his former Crown and Judicial councils.—Agence France-Presse and AP.

The Emperor's future, page 14

Drive to gain UN support by Palestinians

Cairo, Sept 4.—Arab foreign ministers today ended a four-day conference highlighted by the first step in a diplomatic drive by the Palestinians to gain international support for their position in the Middle East conflict.

Acting on a proposal by the Palestine Liberation Organization (PLO), the ministers instructed their United Nations representatives to call collectively for a General Assembly debate on the Palestine issue as a separate item on the agenda.

The PLO planned to send delegations and messages to many countries to seek their support at the United Nations, in which it already had the backing of at least 80 members

Fraud charge against Mrs Papadopoulos

From Our Correspondent
Athens, Sept 4

Charges of fraud were today brought against Mrs Despina Papadopoulos, the wife of former President George Papadopoulos, the deposed dictator, by the public prosecutor in Athens. The charge carries a penalty of up to 10 years' imprisonment.

The action follows an inquiry into accusations that Mrs Papadopoulos drew a salary as a confidential secretary in the Central Intelligence Service (KYP) even after the 1967 coup, when she married the then Colonel Papadopoulos.

The sum involved exceeds £13,000.

Some 70 university professors purged during the dictatorship for political reasons have been reinstated by decree. All professors appointed by Government order during the dictatorship have been dismissed.

The Government is preparing another decree to reinstate judges dismissed by the junta and to remove those appointed during the previous regime.

US formal links with E Germany

Washington, Sept 4.—The United States today formally established diplomatic relations with the German Democratic Republic. An agreement between the two governments was signed at the State Department.

Ambassadors will be exchanged later. President Ford nominated Mr John Sherman Cooper, former Republican Senator from Kentucky, to be the first ambassador to East Germany.

Mrs Ford parries '1976' questions

From Our Own Correspondent
Washington, Sept 4

Mrs Betty Ford today held her first White House press conference and bolstered expectations that her husband will run for election in 1976. It had previously been reported that Mrs Ford had released her husband from a pre-presidential commitment not to seek further office.

Today she would only say "it depends on the state of the country" on whether Mr Ford would run; but she would be campaigning, she said, for "peace and good will."

Apparently suppressing some nervousness with a broadly fired smile, the new first lady, in yellow wool dress and matching neck scarf, took 25 minutes of questions before a gathering of some 200 reporters, mostly women.

She deftly challenged the President's boast to be preparing his own breakfast, saying she was afraid he had by now become accustomed to the "very fine service" upstairs at the White House.

Mr Ford is obviously proud of her own four children. She twice referred to them all enjoying "a family conference over the dinner table", and she explained that the President was influenced by his children in

the recent decision to seek leniency towards the Vietnam conscription dodgers and deserters.

She publicly complimented her children for the way they had adapted to the White House life. That had "dumbfounded" her, she said. She described herself as "happy", "very busy", and said "I always thought I was normal."

She described the White House as "truly a beautiful spot", though she suggested the President and family would try to keep to their Christmas holidays in their small apartment at Vail, a Colorado ski resort in the Rockies.

She saw no reason why they all could not maintain "that normal family relationship."

Mrs Ford committed herself to two questions. Asked by a priest, speaking for a Roman Catholic newspaper for her position on abortion, she readily expressed herself "definitely" closer to those favouring it than opposing it.

When another questioner she undertook to intercede with the President to see whether cancer research could not be expedited.

She professed to be "good friends" with the Nixons, although she admitted she had not spoken to Mrs Nixon since the former President's departure. They corresponded, she said.

Although she had not yet completed the move of the Ford home into the White House, someone asked how she wished to be remembered. "As a constructive wife of a President", she rejoined. She did not expect to come anywhere near living up to previous first ladies, yet it was her ambition to try coming close.

Like her husband she has the knack of sounding as if she means it.

Surprises in reshuffling of Nixon appointees

From Fred Emery
Washington, Sept 4

President Ford, in a reshuffle of Nixon appointees, today nominated Mr George Bush to be the new chief of the United States mission in Peking and Mr Kenneth Rush to be the new Ambassador to France.

Speculation that former General Alexander Haig, soldiering on as White House Chief of Staff, would be nominated for the post of Supreme Allied Commander, Europe, was denied by Mr Bush.

Mr Haig had expressed a desire to return to the army but this was "only one of the options" the President was considering.

There were indications of deep allied dismay that a man so militarily inexperienced and politically identified with the disgrace of President Nixon would even be considered for the highest NATO post.

But Mr Ford is known to have high regard for General Haig—feeling grateful that he had, crucially, engineered the Nixon rescue.

Most recently his official

status was described as White House Chief of Staff for the "duration". But leading news papers and broadcasting correspondents emerged today with reports he was being considered for the NATO post, or a high army command.

General Haig, aged 50, is unpopular with the army high command. He was a colonel who joined the Nixon White House and was catapulted to four-star general over the heads of some 230 officers senior to him, by President Nixon. He was briefly Vice-Chief of Army Staff before replacing Mr H. R. Haldeman in 1973.

Today's appointments were something of a surprise. Mr Bush, a national Republican chairman, has been heavily promoted as Vice-President of the party's right wing but Mr Rockefeller was preferred. He is a former Texas congressman and was one of Mr Nixon's appointees, as Ambassador to the United Nations. He is regarded as a political lightweight.

Mr Ford is proposing a woman, Mrs Mary Louise Smith, to succeed him.

Sikkim Bill receives big majority in Delhi

From Michael Hornsby
Delhi, Sept 4

The controversial Constitution (36th Amendment) Bill, which provides for Sikkim's association with the (Indian) union, was passed today by the Lok Sabha, the lower house of the Indian Parliament, by 310 votes to 7 on its final reading.

This easily satisfied the requirement of a two-thirds majority for the Bill, which was passed by the Rajya Sabha, the upper house, whose approval is, however, little more than a formality. The opposition benches, some of whose occupants had earlier strongly criticized the Bill, were only thinly populated when the vote was taken.

Mr Swaran Singh, Minister for External Affairs, told members that the Bill, which inter alia provides for a Sikkimese representative to sit in each house of the Indian Parliament, was neither "a merger nor an annexation". Sikkim's distinct identity would be preserved.

Mr Singh also dismissed as groundless opposition fears that the creation of a new "associate" status for the small Himalayan kingdom would set a precedent for a looser federal structure in India which some states, such as Kashmir and Nagaland, might try to exploit.

The Government adopted some opposition amendments to the Bill. The most important was a proposal that the Sikkimese representative in the Lok Sabha should be elected directly by the Sikkimese and not nominated by the Sikkim Assembly.

Aside from the provision for Sikkim's parliamentary representation and "associate" status

the Bill largely reaffirms the rights and responsibilities India already enjoys in the 2,813-square mile kingdom under the Indo-Sikkim Treaty of 1950 and the Government of Sikkim Act adopted by the Sikkim Assembly last July.

These include sole responsibility for Sikkim's defence, foreign affairs and communications and the right to station troops anywhere in the kingdom. Final say in all policy matters, internal or external, had been vested in a chief executive recruited from the Indian Civil Service.

The Chogyal (ruler) of Sikkim, who said earlier that his kingdom's "separate identity and international personality" were threatened, had been expected to arrive in Delhi tonight in a possible last-ditch attempt to delay passage of the new legislation. But he decided to remain in Calcutta.

The Chogyal, who is revered as an Incarnate Lama by some of his 200,000 subjects, may fly to Delhi tomorrow to see his children off to school in New York, where his wife, the former Miss Hope Cooke, is living. Any talk with Indian leaders would, however, be of merely academic value now.

Our Kathmandu correspondent writes: Nearly a thousand students demonstrated outside the Indian Embassy last night condemning what they described as "Indian imperialism in Sikkim". A large police posse stopped the demonstrators going near the embassy's main gate but some 60 were allowed to hand over a memorandum to Mr Maharaaj Krishna Rasgotra, the ambassador. The memorandum strongly "condemned India's colonialism in Sikkim".

Man with rusty nail hijacks airliner

Boston, Sept 4.—A man was charged with air piracy today after it had been alleged that he tried to extort \$100,000 (£43,000) from Eastern Airlines by seizing the pilot of a commuter flight and threatening him with a rusty nail.

The 95 passengers and four members of the crew scrambled out of emergency exits over the wings because the hijacker refused to permit the doors of the aircraft to be opened.

The hijacker then held the pilot hostage for three hours, demanding \$100,000 for the release of the plane. The plane, a DC 9 jet, was lowered the demand to \$10,000.

According to the FBI, Marshall Collins, aged 20, of Providence, Rhode Island, boarded a DC 9 jet at New York for the flight to Boston. When the airliner had landed, the hijacker rushed forward and grabbed the pilot round the

neck, scratching him with the nail.

The 95 passengers and four members of the crew scrambled out of emergency exits over the wings because the hijacker refused to permit the doors of the aircraft to be opened.

OVERSEAS

Lisbon ministers say Frelimo will head the new government

Lisbon, Sept 4.—The Frelimo guerrilla movement will head a provisional government, due to be set up in Mozambique later this month, Portuguese ministers said here today.

As the ministers set out for formal negotiations with Frelimo in the Mozambique capital of Lusaka, Senhor Mario Soares, the Foreign Minister, said the essential lines of an independence agreement were already settled.

Dr Antonio de Almeida Santos, the Overseas Territories Minister, forecast that full agreement would be reached in the Lusaka talks due to start tomorrow, and said the provisional government would be formed about a week later.

Both he and Major Ernesto Melo Antunes, Minister without portfolio, said Portugal would legally recognize the independence of Mozambique next year.

The new provisional government, in which Frelimo would have a majority, would not be headed by the Frelimo leader, Mr Samora Machel, they said. They understood he would be the first president of independent Mozambique, although they emphasized that this was for Frelimo itself to decide.

Official Portuguese sources said the provisional government chief would probably be a Frelimo regional commander from the Mozambique district of Tete.

Major Melo Antunes said the outline agreement made no provision for any elections before independence, the date of which is to be fixed during the Lusaka talks.

Observers said the terms of the prospective agreement were in line with the three main points which Frelimo—the Mozambique Liberation Front—insisted on before any agreement to end the guerrilla war it has been fighting against Portugal in Mozambique for the past 10 years.

These points are that Portugal recognizes the inalienable right of the Mozambique people to independence, that it transfers power to the Mozambique people and that Frelimo is their sole legitimate representative.

The fundamental aspect is that the war ends and that the future of Mozambique can be assured within the terms of a natural independence, since the

project of decolonization logically leads to independence, Dr Soares said in an airport statement.

Lusaka, September 4.—Angola's military junta today announced the formation of a provisional government for the Portuguese territory which has been promised eventual independence by Lisbon. The provisional government will operate under the governing junta led by Admiral Rosa Coutinho.

In a statement in today's *Provincia de Angola* newspaper, no mention was made about the intention previously announced by Admiral Coutinho to reserve places for liberation leaders.

Macao, Sept 4.—Dr Antonio Almeida Santos is expected to pay an official visit to the Portuguese enclave on the South China coast later this month, informed sources said today.

The sources said Dr Santos would also be travelling to the island of Portuguese Timor in the Indonesian archipelago.

There was no immediate official confirmation here of the trip, which will be the first official visit to Macao by a Portuguese minister for several years. In the aftermath of the April 25 military coup in Portugal, there have been two top-level dismissals in the armed forces here and two political parties have been formed.

One of them, the liberal-leaning Macao Democratic Centre (CDM) has been pressing for reforms in the provincial administration and has sharply criticized the Governor, General Nobre de Carvalho, who has held the post for nearly eight years.

A CDM spokesman said today the government had offered to reconsider his decision to ban a weekly CDM radio programme if the group refrained from personal criticism of him, but the CDM rejected this.

Reuter

Laurence Marques, Sept 4.—Pro-guerrilla supporters said today they will hold a mass rally here tomorrow to coincide with the opening of the independence talks in Lusaka.

The announcement of the rally was the only noted reaction to the resumption of talks, although economic chaos continued to grip the colony. In one vivid example of this today, the price of milk in the capital city shot up by 80 per cent.—UPI.

Judge frees two Africans held without trial

From Our Own Correspondent Cape Town, Sept 4

Two members of the South-West Africa People's Organization (SWAPO) were released by a judge in Windhoek yesterday after being held without trial for seven months and eight months.

Mr Lot Zacharias, aged 31, and Mr Axel Jackson Johannes, aged 28, were detained under the Terrorism Act in January. Until July 19 they were held in isolation and they applied unsuccessfully for bail on August 2.

Releasing them, Mr Justice J. J. Strydom said: "After all

these months there is still doubt about the charges against them. A magistrate says they are charged with attempting to leave the territory illegally while a police officer says they allegedly assisted others to leave illegally."

The judge set bail at 250 rand (about £175) each and ordered the two men to stay in the Windhoek district and report twice a day to the police. Both claim to have been beaten by the police during their detention but three magistrates said in affidavits that they had found no evidence to support this.

World trip air couple die in crash

Hamilton, New Zealand, Sept 4.—A pilot and girl companion, who flew a light aircraft from England to New Zealand, died when it crashed here a few days after their flight halfway round the world.

They were Mr Neil Steven, aged 30, of the Channel Islands, and Miss Ann Whitworth, of Beer, Devon. The crash occurred on Monday, just after Mr Steven, who owned the aircraft, and Miss Whitworth had taken off from an airfield near Whangarei, on the Coromandel peninsula, where Mr Steven had been visiting his parents.—Reuter.

Drug plants found in palace garden

Guatemala, Sept 3.—Police today removed several marijuana plants which had been planted in the Presidential Palace gardens after an anti-drug campaign.—Reuter.

Desperate state of Czech political prisoners

By Our Foreign Staff

The Committee to Defend Czechoslovak Socialists, based in London, has received an urgent appeal from Prague on behalf of political prisoners in Czechoslovakia.

The appeal describes the intolerable conditions in two prisons—Litoměřice and Ostrava—where the men are housed in small, damp cells, two to a cell. No sun, or even direct light reaches them and they suffer from cold.

In these airless conditions, with a toilet in the corner, they have to live and work, not being allowed out even to the workshops.

Among prisoners transferred last year to these institutions are Professor Sabata, Marxist lecturer and leading supporter of the Dubcek reforms of 1968; Mr Jiri Muller, former student leader; Dr Milan Sihan, former secretary of the Socialist Party in Brno; Dr Jan Tesar, historian; and Dr Milan Hubil, a leading communist and former friend of Dr Gustav

Dissident has heart attack during arrest

Moscow, Sept 4.—Police today arrested Mr Vitaly Rubin, a Jewish dissident, at his home, bringing on a heart seizure required hospital treatment, his wife said.

Mrs Ina Rubin said her husband, a specialist in ancient Chinese philosophy, was roused from his bed at 6.30 am and taken away.

Mr Rubin says he has been denied work since he applied to go to Israel more than two years ago. Police said he was being charged with parasitism.—UPI.

Correction

In reference to an agency report from Belra in *The Times* yesterday on trouble out of the sugar estate in Mozambique, Tate & Lyle Ltd. state that the firm own no sugar estates in Mozambique.

Husak, the present party leader.

All were sentenced in the summer of 1972 to prison terms ranging from three to six and a half years. Their physical and mental state is reported to be critical. One prisoner has lost 37lb, all are desperately thin and pale. Food parcels to supplement the prison food are limited to 6lb once in three months.

Menstrual depression is worsened by the fact that visits are allowed only once in three months, and conversation is restricted solely to family matters. Medical attention is gravely inadequate. Mr Muller, who contracted eye trouble in prison, is losing his sight, but no treatment is provided. Dr Hubil's eyesight is also deteriorating badly.

The prison governor at Litoměřice is particularly criticised. The only hope, the appeal states, is to insist that food parcels of highly concentrated nutrients be allowed to reach these men without delay. The International Red Cross is being asked to help.

Shopping around

Sheila Black

Colour Counsellors is an organization I have known from infancy and I am delighted to write about it in its maturity. The two young ladies who started this service: now find themselves running a large business, commissioning their own patterns and colours, even in carpets, and getting their own fabrics made up.

They deserve their success. Their project brings decorating shops to your door and, wisely, they have chosen all their counsellors very, very carefully to be as charming and as efficient as they are. Counsellors cover most of England (Scotland

and Wales may come in time). There are bare patches in Devon and Cornwall and in parts of the Midlands—Yorkshire is good. But, wherever you live, it is worth writing to them because a counsellor may be about to be appointed near your home. Shirley Liger and Virginia Stourton are qualified designers and interior decorators and they are very keen on high standards.

Each counsellor carries beautifully designed boxes of samples—wall paper, fabric, carpet and so on. There are eight boxes, so that each colour is separately packed. All the greens, browns, beiges, reds, blues, pinks and others are kept separately. Most people have their own ideas of what

colour schemes they like to live with and a lot of time is saved by this segregation. The aim of Colour Counsellors is to guide, help, serve, and advise; not to force their ideas on you. You can have very firm ideas about what you want and still find them a boon because of the easy reference systems. The trekking from store to store is over because it has all been hunted down for you to choose in comfort. It is also a good idea to see samples in their potential environments, noting how they live with others and your home.

You can farm out as much or as little work to them as you like. You can buy fabrics and make your own loose covers or have them do it. This

shop on wheels is a shop; but a shop with service because they can arrange carpet-laying, upholstery and the rest. You can even hand over the whole task of doing out the flat or offices, having chosen your own colours; or ask for their colour schemes to approve or modify. Obviously, there are fees for special or comprehensive design services. There is no fee for the shops on wheels to your front door and none for normal friendly but experienced advice.

Every counsellor gets to know her area and its inhabitants well and she becomes the voice of her customers in the main shop at head office. There she meets regularly over coffee with colleagues and executives, putting

ing in her own suggestions for what she wants, does not want, or would like to see more of. The main shop is there for Londoners and it is also the address for all your enquiries. Colour Counsellors is at 187 New Kings Road, London, SW6. Tel. 01. 736 8326.

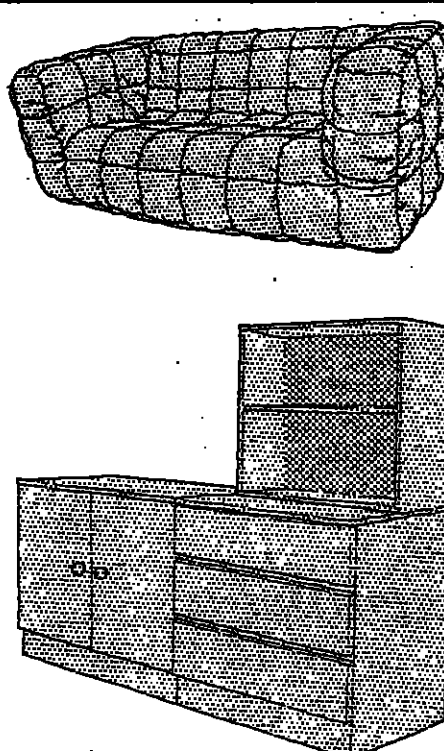
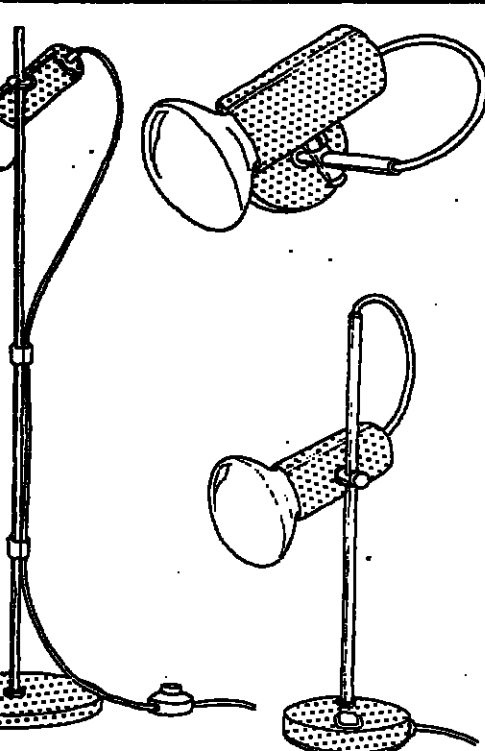
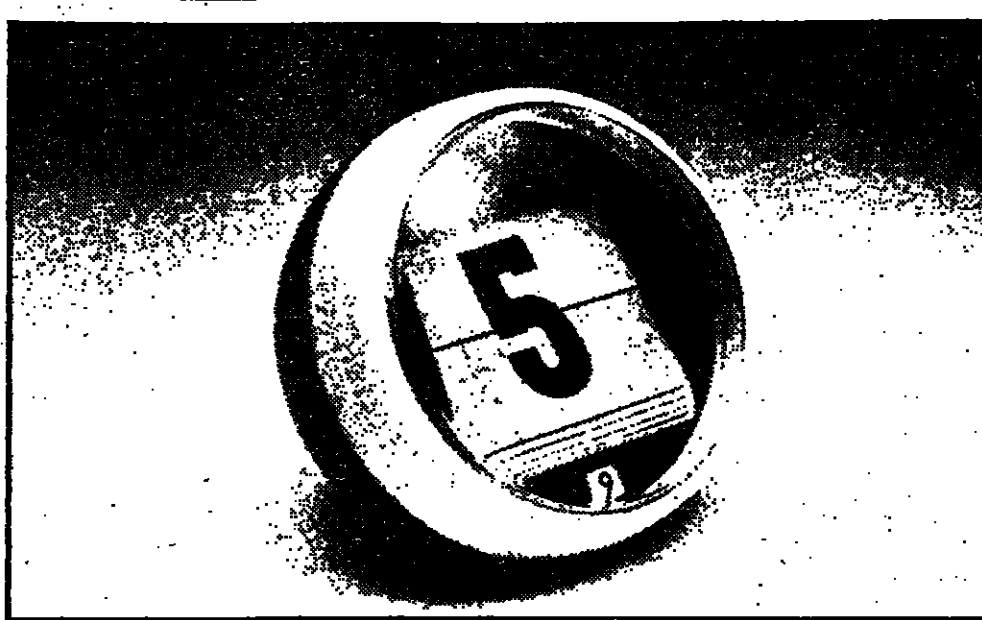
Bromley inhabitants can also look at a new shop service called Scheme Room, a prototype shop in which to choose your own colours in every thing. This is, as yet, a purely local service on the lower ground floor of the Bromley South shopping precinct on Mason's Hill, open from Monday to Saturday between 9 am and 5.30 pm. The address is 6 Westmoreland Place, Bromley South, Kent.

Neat, if not beautiful, are little digital calendars. The date figure is black and large on a tinted, green background. The month, in numbers 1 to 12, is a small black figure on a white background. The outer casings are rounded with base cut-outs to allow for firm standing and with flat, plastic-protected faces. A hand-operated push button clicks over the date—forward only so avoid clicking over too enthusiastically. Pass the date and you work your way through 30 or 31 days if you are really lucky.

28 days. The outer casing is a bright orange with dark green front rim, which I personally do not like but which some might welcome as colourful. Or in black with white front rim, which I like. I would choose, they sell at 99p at Selfridges, The Three Bells at Henley-on-Thames, Dingle's stores in Plymouth and Exeter, and several more in Jersey. Otherwise, and until distribution spreads, they can be bought by direct mail (add 20p for postage) from Clifford Goolnik, 30 Baker Street, London W1M 2DS. Ask for Click-a-Date.

Nostalgia was my first reaction to Habitat's new collection of Basic furniture and home accessories. Basic looked a little like the Utility furniture we had during the war, the homogenous non-brand to replace all the non-existent brands of those rationed days. It was well made, well designed—a bit ahead of its time in simplicity and paleness—and oh, so welcome to those of us who were (a) broke and (b) tired of the shiny, over-ornate, stirred-porridge stuff in our parents' homes.

Basic, like Utility, was born of shortages, inflation, economic difficulties and the general inability of people to buy costly goods, however much they like them. Basic is a cooperative effort, with the Habitat team getting down to basics with manufacturers and suppliers. The chests of drawers are very like early Habitat, still in use for my grandchildren although



replaced in my own home by latter-day Habitat. Very simple in pale wood veneer with plastic-veneer edges for toughness and durability. At £26.25 for a 3-drawer chest, you can't complain.

The drawings give an idea of what you are buying but the Basic range is now in every Habitat branch and will be incorporated in the next catalogue—

no leaflets on it as yet. I like the Tortoise sofa for more than its lovely price of £59.95. It is comfortable, with Dunlopillo heavy-grade foam frame, removable quilted brown denim cover and it seats two (how rarely do three people ever sit on a three-seater settee?). The lighting is very much like the costlier Habitat lighting but finished in a hardwearing resin lacquer in

bright colours (yellow, green or white). From £2.95 for wall lamp. The range includes window blinds; towels; extra-size sheets in any colour as long as it's white; divans (very comfortable too) at £35 for single or £45 for double sizes; tables and chairs; upholstered furniture; kitchen furniture; and accessories like pots, pans, kitchen knives, glasses, mirrors and all.

Paul Minet believes that there is a growing demand for fine old books and other rare books. So he opened a shop called Piccadilly Rare Books at 2/4 Princes Arcade, off Piccadilly, London W1. The shop itself is a rarity, since few genuine antiquarian bookshops have opened up in London's West End for many years. He reckons that there are good reasons why he has a tempting choice at low prices—between £2 and £5—as well as the costlier books. He has recruited four binders, whose work will be displayed in the shop.

About half the stock is on general travel and topography, with the accent on Britain's heritages which, he finds, interests so many who

feel that the old Britain is being demolished around them. America, the Middle East, Africa and South America are on the list of popular countries on which books are in demand. If you have £400, you can buy a complete run of *The Adventurer*, to which Dr Johnson contributed. Topical is a rare copy of the text of a case between Richard Arkwright and the Attorney General to repeal a patent (£350). But you can start modestly if that's not in your financial league. Paul Minet, journalist and book dealer, has himself a fine personal collection, is a member of the Antiquarian Booksellers' Association and uses his editing experience to run the *Antiquarian Book Monthly Review*, now building its circulation steadily.

Digital clocks, digital

calendars and, now, a digital

timer for sophisticated kitchens.

It is round, can stand on its own

or be attached to the wall on the

bracket supplied. Rotate it

clockwise to start the timing.

Useful in darkrooms where the

working surfaces need to be

uncluttered. Useful in kitchens

for much the same reason and

for the fact that timer can be

detached to go into another

room with you. It has to be slid

off the little metal wall-fixing

plate, bracket and all, but it is

possible. After all, a timer's

advantage is that you can leave

the kitchen and go back to the

pots or pans in time to prevent

cooking disasters. About

2½ inches in diameter, this timer

is in white only and is £3.68 from

most department stores, gift

shops and some jewellers selling

gifts. Made by Smiths, as your

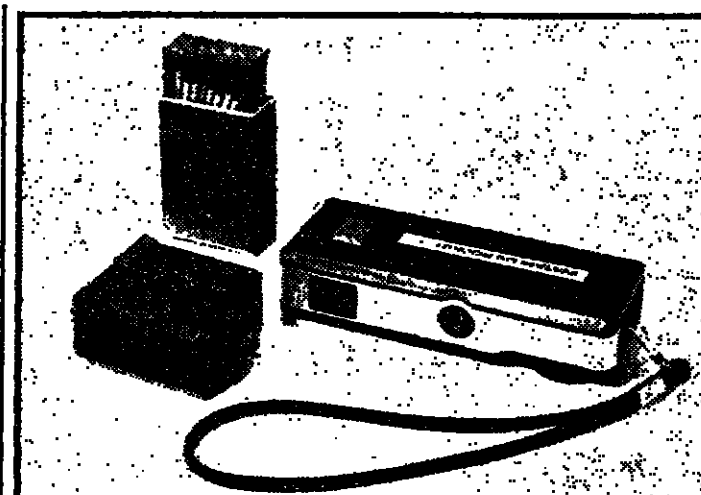
familiar timer probably is too;

stockists from the Clock and

Watch Division of Smiths, Sector

House, Waterloo Road, London

NW2 7UL.



High marks go to this little

camera, the Instaplus Pocket

110. The standard matchbox

gives you an idea of the size,

which is 4¼in long by 1½in wide

by just an inch thick. The extra

flash-holder, which takes cubes

and fits on to the end of the

camera's length, is about 1½in

by 1½in. Here, I must refer you

to the instructions that make it

clear that the cube does not

turn on automatically but must

be given a quarter-turn

manually after each flash-light

exposure unless you want the

next photograph without flash.

The Magicube locks on easily

and the average retail price of

this little thing is £7.47—I have

not personally seen anything

so good and at today's prices, you

want them that way. Indeed, the

old days of happy or funny

snaps are best forgotten and

even the most amateur photom-

grapher should frame his

chosen picture carefully and try

to resist haphazard or repetitive

shots. One tip—I never wind on

until ready to take the next shot

so that there is no risk of acci-

dental exposure while the

ment which cuts out camera

shake and, if children borrow

your camera, you will know that

this is very much a plus. But

you might wait for firmer,

louder clicks than this gives

when you take your picture.

The lens incorporates an

ultra-violet light filter which

does improve a good many

photographs by cutting through

the haze that spoils so many.

The results of both flash and

outdoor photographs are very

good and, at today's prices, you

want them that way. Indeed, the

old days of happy or funny

snaps are best forgotten and

even the most amateur photom-

grapher should frame his

chosen picture carefully and try

to resist haphazard or repetitive

shots. One tip—I never wind on

until ready to take the next shot

so that there is no risk of acci-

dental exposure while the

camera is in pocket or handbag

and this slips easily into both

because it is so small. Some

people prefer to wind on half

way between exposures. A full

wind-on can lead to the exposure

button being pressed wastefully.

I did not discover it myself,

but a friend thinks there could

be some risk of covering the

lens with a finger while photo-

graphing because there is no

clue as to whether the lens is

covered or not when you look

through the viewfinder. Her

boyfriend, a photographer,

reckons this to be a common

fault. The window to show you

the number of the film (and

whether or not it is colour) is

generous. It is a distinct advantage

to have no batteries to

worry about because these can

corrode if a camera lies packed

away for any length of time and

I think the no battery method

offers any slight disadvantage

of having to remember to wind

on the flash cube by hand. Very

light, it slips into small pockets.

The colour film cassette is 60p

or so. Then the cost begins

once you get to the developing

and printing. Prints are 3½in

square.

Instaplus Pocket 110 is at a

great many dealers around

Britain. If your favourite local

supplier has none in stock, he

can order from Paul Plus, Hamp-

smile Lane, Newcastle, Staffs

SS 0SW. There is a London

showroom at Regent House, 235-

241 Regent Street, London W1R

7AG. If you want to look at it

and another at White Lodge,

Wellington Road, St Helier. But

these are trade showrooms and

they will not sell cameras at

either address although they can

help with stockists.

Tell them you paid 150 guineas.



When it comes to the price tickets on exclusive fashions, the sky's the limit.

Unless you buy direct from Bernat Klein.

Fashions exclusively for the woman who doesn't

normally order by

mail. At prices

considerably lower

than she normally pays.

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Waukeign Mill, Galashiels, TD1 1QD.

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SPORT

Athletics

Pascoe comes back to win gold

From Neil Allen
Athletics Correspondent
Rome, Sept 4

Alan Pascoe achieved one of the most remarkable comebacks in the modern history of British athletics when he won the European 400 metres hurdles title in the Olympic stadium here this evening with a championship record of 48.8sec.

Only a week ago, when Pascoe was asked about his prospects, he replied: "I'm hoping to beat 50sec but there's no way I can really think of doing 48.8sec after breaking my training through injury."

About a fortnight ago Pascoe was again in training at the Italian holiday resort of Formia where he hoped the sun would heal his leg. But he nearly pulled out of these championships then and it was only when he was back in his room, his wife Della and team colleague, Bill Harley, which convinced him he should still compete and might get some kind of medal.

Pascoe spent this morning in friendly consultation, away from the other athletes, with David Hemery, who won the 400 metres hurdles Olympic gold medal for Britain at Mexico City in 1968. Hemery told me later: "We've been very encouraged by Alan's running in the early rounds, but now it's all up to him and I have a feeling he can pull it off."

So it proved on the track this evening as Pascoe, drawn in lane two, with the French favourite, Jean-Claude Nallet inside him, survived the tension of the last few seconds before the gun by shaking hands with all his rivals and then racing like a champion for the first black and white striped barrier.

The Commonwealth title holder kept stride for stride with the deeply bronzed figure of Nallet and at the fifth of the ten hurdles, where Nallet was timed in 21.2sec, I made the Frenchman only inches in front. But in the last half of the race, over the final handful of fences, Pascoe dug down deep and Nallet was beaten by the crucial few feet which lost him the duel on the line. Pascoe finished with a wide grin and then trotted back a lap waving to the many British supporters among the crowd.

Afterwards he said: "This is a dream come true. I was so close to pulling out when I was in Formia. I was all over the place today at the tenth hurdle after the vital bit when I found I had just enough strength between the ninth and tenth hurdles. I could hear Nallet coming and though I knew I'd got it, I didn't realize he was that close. He's a damned mine as we crossed the line."

Pascoe refrained today from making any comments about any



Pascoe (left) dips to beat Nallet and take the Frenchman's European 400 metres hurdles title.

lack of encouragement by the British selectors during his past difficult month. But his popularity with some selectors is no secret in Europe, judging by the remark of a Hungarian reporter who said: "I hope Pascoe has proved his fitness to the British Athletics Board now." Certainly I did not believe the Pascoe I had seen wincing with pain during training at Crystal Palace could go a year another triumph in a career which has already seen him become British champion in three different events and gain an Olympic silver medal in a fourth speciality.

This first victory for Britain in these European championships reminded one that at Helsinki in 1971 our only winner was David Jenkins in the 400 metres. Today Jenkins, who is coached by Henry (Pauze) regular coach is George Ymms) followed Pascoe out on to the track for his attempt to retain his championship. Indeed, as Jenkins secured his starting block Pascoe was being presented with his gold medal by the aptly named Arthur Gold, of the British board.

Sadly for Jenkins, who is such a perfectionist that he takes his defeat hard, he had to rest content with silver today as his old

West German rival, Karl Hons, pushed through to win 45.06sec. Overt's coach had already said: "He hasn't put a foot wrong here so far, and he's proved already that he's not too young for this kind of competition."

In the women's 400 metres, which was the first track final today, Verona Bernard just managed to escape eighth and last position after the race had been torn wide open by the relentless pace set by Britta Salin of Finland. Mrs Salin caused one of the start but she was still the leader going into the back straight and kept her form well ahead of East Germany's Ellen Streidt, who was timed in 50.14sec which will receive ratification as an "electronic" world record compared with the hand timed 52.8sec by Irena Sewinska of Poland, who did not compete in this event here.

There was equally tough competition in the women's 800 metres before Lijana Tomova of Bulgaria, slipped neatly away in the home straight from the determined East German, Gunhild Hofmeister, who had charged through the first 400 metres in a strength-sapping 50.15sec with Overt trailing far behind in fifth place. But it was with 200 metres to go that a perfect picture of a sprinter made up four places into the front and then went away as he

covered the last 200 metres in an unchallengeable 26.2sec.

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Football

Wales waltzed off the floor after Austrians change formation

From Geoffrey Green
Football Correspondent
Vienna, Sept 4

The first shots in the European Nations championship were fired here tonight when Wales and Austria also involved in this group there is a long road still ahead. Austria, however, got off on the right foot in the Prater Stadium when they beat Wales only in the last 25 minutes, with goals by Kreuz and Krankl, that got them home. A vital tactical change, however, had been converted their team from 4-3-3 to 4-2-4. That was the turning point.

Wales, though technically inferior, emerged with much credit. They showed, as usual, an abundance of pride and spirit which was a deal of breathing down when they played back to the order for the first time in many years. In many ways this was an encouraging baptism for their new full-time manager, Michael Smith, once an amateur with the Corinthian Casuals and a member of the British Olympic squad, now living in a professional world.

The players clearly reacted to his paternal integrity and articulate planning. Austria had been unbeaten in this stadium with its 80,000 capacity for the last three years, and though they collapsed horribly at the end of the match they will wish to forget they did at least force

a play off with Sweden for a place in last summer's World Cup finals. True they are far from the wonder team formed by Wally Miel 40 years ago; far from the side led by the brilliant Ockert to third place in the World Cup of 1954.

Yet in men like Kreuz, Krankl and Krankl, their free-scoring strikers, they have gleaned technicians; and the side also remain something of the old Austrian team, though the tactical change to 4-2-4, that saw them home. But they had to work for their victory.

With Wales having taken the lead through Griffiths unexpectedly 10 minutes before the interval, there were clear signs of unrest in the Austrian side. For the Welsh heroes, Yorath and the lightweight Griffiths, the Austrians went midfield control, and it was Wales, however, who were 4-2-4, that saw them home. But they had to work for their victory.

Kreuz volleyed home left-footed a magnificent shot from Star's cross. With a quarter of an hour left a mass attack on the Welsh goal ended with Krankl, always as sharp as a needle, sliding the ball home for the winner.

Austria could have had two other goals in the second half when Sterling and Walker were clean through the defence only to be stopped by the goalkeeper. There was a series of five saves by Sprake; there were a couple of bookings; but Robert Foster became as raw as an onion.

All this emerged after a blue sunny evening that followed a day of rain, leaving the rooftops glistening. But the pitch was good if a little soft and overhead the moon was full. The atmosphere of the big wheel of Orson Wells and Third Man infamy dominated the mood of the match, and as Austria inched up to their victory a partisan 40,000 crowd made its voice heard.

Thursday is best for live games - Dougan

Derek Dougan, the Wolverhampton Wanderers Irish International Footballer's Association spokesman, said some League matches to be played on Thursdays so that television can be given live coverage. This is Dougan's suggestion in an article in the current issue of *The Listener* in which he says "I suggest that Saturday night and Sunday afternoon soccer programmes be scrapped and replaced by live coverage of League matches brought forward to Thursday evenings from Saturday afternoons."

In pointing out that Thursday evening between 7.30 and 9.30 would be an ideal time for these there would be no clash with other matches, Dougan admits there would be a conflict with the football pools, but with their cooperation it ought to be possible to arrange a fixture to be brought forward from Saturday.

It would be important, also, to choose the best matches "that is those with special rivals such as local derbies, Liverpool v Everton, Rangers v Celtic, Arsenal v Chelsea". Dougan agrees that supporters instead of making long distance trips to support their teams would, if the game is televised live, stay at home if they could see the whole match.

Results yesterday

European championship		(1)	(2)	(3)	(4)
Austria	(1)	Wales	(2)	Sweden	(3)
Norway	(4)	Denmark	(5)	Finland	(6)
Third division					
Austria	(1)	Wales	(2)	Sweden	(3)
Norway	(4)	Denmark	(5)	Finland	(6)
Fourth division					
Austria	(1)	Wales	(2)	Sweden	(3)
Norway	(4)	Denmark	(5)	Finland	(6)

Robson goes to West Ham for £45,000 fee

West Ham United yesterday signed Keith Robson for a fee of about £45,000. The Arsenal striker, who hurt his leg during the pre-season tour of the Netherlands, had the injury put back into plaster yesterday. But this is a precautionary measure to get the leg fit again with more rest.

Early goal proves no use to Northern Ireland

Northern Ireland's defence frequently looked shaky and fell away on one occasion almost gave away a goal, but Rice was in form, and up front McIlroy often created difficulties for the Norwegian defence but could not find the support in the penalty area.

Today's football

LEAGUE CUP: First round, third replay. Bolton Wanderers v Bristol City. Kick-off 7.45pm.

Results from yesterday's European championships in Rome

Men		25.2sec: 2. M. Karst (FRG), 26.6: 3. D. G. (FRG), 28.0: 4. J. (FRG), 29.0: 5. J. (FRG), 30.0: 6. J. (FRG), 31.0: 7. J. (FRG), 32.0: 8. J. (FRG), 33.0: 9. J. (FRG), 34.0: 10. J. (FRG), 35.0: 11. J. (FRG), 36.0: 12. J. (FRG), 37.0: 13. J. (FRG), 38.0: 14. J. (FRG), 39.0: 15. J. (FRG), 40.0: 16. J. (FRG), 41.0: 17. J. (FRG), 42.0: 18. J. (FRG), 43.0: 19. J. (FRG), 44.0: 20. J. (FRG), 45.0: 21. J. (FRG), 46.0: 22. J. (FRG), 47.0: 23. J. (FRG), 48.0: 24. J. (FRG), 49.0: 25. J. (FRG), 50.0: 26. J. (FRG), 51.0: 27. J. (FRG), 52.0: 28. J. (FRG), 53.0: 29. J. (FRG), 54.0: 30. J. (FRG), 55.0: 31. J. (FRG), 56.0: 32. J. (FRG), 57.0: 33. J. (FRG), 58.0: 34. J. (FRG), 59.0: 35. J. (FRG), 60.0: 36. J. (FRG), 61.0: 37. J. (FRG), 62.0: 38. J. (FRG), 63.0: 39. J. (FRG), 64.0: 40. J. (FRG), 65.0: 41. J. (FRG), 66.0: 42. J. (FRG), 67.0: 43. J. (FRG), 68.0: 44. J. (FRG), 69.0: 45. J. (FRG), 70.0: 46. J. (FRG), 71.0: 47. J. (FRG), 72.0: 48. J. (FRG), 73.0: 49. J. (FRG), 74.0: 50. J. (FRG), 75.0: 51. 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Lessons of Turkey's subtle land-grab

Mr Rauf Denkash, the Turkish Cypriot leader, has threatened to declare a Turkish Cypriot republic in the area of Cyprus at present occupied by the Turkish army, unless the Greeks and Greek Cypriots go back to the conference table. His threat feeds suspicions that the Turkish invasion, which was originally mounted as a "limited police action" (or "waging peace"), may eventually develop into wholesale annexation and seizure of the island.

Officially, republican Turkey today is not expansionist. Nevertheless, since the establishment of the Turkish republic, Kemal Ataturk in 1923, Turkey has expanded once; subtly and gradually, over the three years 1936-39, she seized from French-mandated Syria the Sanjak (or county) of Alexandretta, the modern Iskenderun.

From 1921 to 1936 the Sanjak had enjoyed a "special administrative status" within the political unity of mandate-Syria. The population of the Sanjak was very mixed; according to the census of 1936, out of a total population for the Sanjak of 219,080, the Turks made up 39 per cent, Alawites (Arabian-speaking heterodox Muslims) 28 per cent, Armenians 11 per cent, Sunni Muslim Arabs 10 per cent, Greek Orthodox and other Christians 8 per cent, Kurds 2 per cent, others 2 per cent. The Turks thus constituted the largest minority, but they were outnumbered by the combined total of Arabic-speakers.

In September, 1936, France signed a treaty with Syria, which would lead Syria to membership of the League of Nations three years after its ratification. At the time, most at once Turkey raised the question of the Sanjak, claiming that it deserved independence, virtually along the lines of Lebanon.

Absurd claims were made by some Turkish newspapers, to bolster up the idea that the Sanjak was Turkish. One such was that all its inhabitants except the Sunni Muslim Arabs were, racially, Turks. By contrast, one Turkish notable in the Sanjak, Mahmud Bey Adali, claimed that of the 85,000 Turks in the Sanjak only 25,000 were supporters of the Kemalist Turkish Republic; the other Turks opposed the Kemalist reforms, and preferred to live outside the Republic.

Turkey and France continued to negotiate on the Sanjak without success, and in December, 1936, agreed to submit the dispute to the Council of the League of Nations. France, at the time deeply troubled by Mussolini's threats in the Mediterranean, urgently needed Turkish friendship. The League's ruling of January, 1937, was a victory for Turkey; the Sanjak was to become a separate political entity, a quasi-state, with customs, finance and foreign affairs alone handled by Syria. Turkey had achieved a first move towards incorporation of the Sanjak.

Throughout early 1937 League of Nations experts were drafting possible constitutional laws for the Sanjak; at the same time Alexandretta itself was in turmoil of riots, confrontations, strikes, and murders.

One of the League's safeguards was a careful protection against intimidation: an individual had to provide evidence of belonging to a community, instead of stating "I'm a Turk" or "I'm an Arab", while, perhaps, his landlord or employer listened outside. Those Turks working for union of the Sanjak with Kemalist Turkey realized the threat to their ambitions implicit in this safeguard: that

Arabs, Armenians and non-Kemalist Turks might together create a large anti-Kemalist majority. Turkey demanded that the anti-intimidation clauses be dropped. In March, 1938, the League acquiesced and the Turkish member on the League's commission resigned in protest.

A new register of electors was assembled; but the Kemalist Turks were unable to get a majority despite the dropping of the safeguards. So Turkey put more direct pressure on France, compelling her to agree to the entry of Turkish troops into the Sanjak to "maintain order".

The League's officials realized that, under such circumstances, their presence was superfluous; so they packed up and went home. (Today, Turkey seems to be doing her utmost to get the United Nations out of Cyprus.) After the entry of Turkish troops into the Sanjak in July 1938, miraculous things happened to the population statistics: Turks, hitherto 39 per cent, increased overnight to 63 per cent. In recognition of this "fact", France and Turkey agreed that Turks should have 22 out of the 40 seats in the legislative assembly.

New elections were held on August 1, 1938; the new assembly met the following month, with a Turkish, pro-Kemalist, President and Prime Minister. The Sanjak was henceforth to be known as the Republic of Hatay, on the grounds of an entirely bogus official ascription of Hittite ancestry to the modern Turks of the region. Many of the measures that Kemal had introduced into Turkey were introduced into Hatay.

In early 1939 Turkey made her final demand: only actual cession of Hatay by France—still legally the mandatory power—to the Turkish Republic would stop her joining the Axis. France, beleaguered in Europe, meekly agreed. By a treaty of October 19, 1939, Hatay was incorporated into the Turkish Republic.

Altogether, the worst sufferers of the Sanjak were the Armenians, unable to contemplate living under a Turkish government: an estimated 15,000 of them left the Sanjak in the week of June 17-22, 1939, many of whom had experienced exile before. A large number of Sunni Muslim Arabs and anti-Kemalist Turks left too, many of them for Aleppo. Turkey had successfully bullied France into violating the Charter of the Mandate. She had also used each agreement concluded with France, beginning with the Ankara agreement of 1921, as a mere stepping-stone to a greater deal, using threat and bluster to achieve her ends. She had managed to annex the Sanjak, and with it the fine harbour of Alexandretta and the ancient city of Antioch. France had lost little: the real losers were those forced to trudge across man-made frontiers with only so much as they could carry, to face an uncertain future as refugees.

Those today who, like old-fashioned imperialists, say that partition would be best for Cyprus, likewise ignore the suffering that this would involve. Moreover, on the precedent of Alexandretta, they might find that agreements with Turkey have a curiously fragile nature—a characteristic of the ceasefire of July 22, 1974, until, perhaps, the Republic of Cyprus becomes the Turkish province of Kibris.

The author is writing at present a modern history of Armenia.

Christopher Walker

Ethiopians must decide quickly what sort of government they want

What will the army do with Emperor Haile Selassie?

There is now no doubt that the members of the armed forces coordinating committee, the real rulers of Ethiopia, have taken the decision to remove Emperor Haile Selassie. For those in Europe who remember his great speech at the League of Nations in 1936 this may seem a pity; but those days were nearly 40 years ago, and foreign policy has little to do with domestic affairs. The logic of the Ethiopian situation now demands his removal—it would be absurd to overthrow a feudal regime and still to keep the person largely responsible for the continuation of such a regime.

In recent weeks the armed forces have orchestrated a series of attacks on the person of the Emperor and on the monarchy itself. These began tentatively partly to try to discover how much support remained for Haile Selassie and partly because the hallmark of the army's growing control has been caution. With the steady increase in the number of revelations taken from the imperial palace two weeks ago have been sufficient, the need for such caution is disappearing.

At the beginning of last week it was announced that the but company of Addis Ababa, set up with Treasury money, had provided more than £1m profit for its shareholders—mainly members of the imperial family. This was followed by allegations that the Emperor had personally ordered the Ministry of Finance to cut the tax due on one noble's land from 90,000 to 3,000 Ethiopian dollars a year; that 350,000 Ethiopian dollars a year was being spent educating a few children of nobles abroad; and most damning of all that the Emperor, like his ministers, was fully aware of the famine disaster in Wollo long before anything was done about it. These attacks have been intensifying and significantly taking on new forms. There has been a growing use of the media for such items as a recent play by the imperial bodyguard attacking the old regime; and this week an effigy of the Emperor was burnt in front of the palace.

There still remains the question of how the Emperor actually goes. It would be desirable that he should abdicate and ease the transition to a new regime, but this would be out of character. It seems that the army is positively going to have to remove him. There is still, however, considerable debate going on in the armed

forces about whether this necessarily should mean the end of the monarchy.

The tone of recent attacks makes it clear that there is growing support for a republic. "The people now know that the crown which it loved and venerated... gave birth to a society of thieves and exploiters." This is not confined to Addis Ababa and other cities, though it is strongest there.

The army does still have to consider what support might be left to Haile Selassie, and that is why the approach has been gradual. More important they do have to work out the

future government. The new draft constitution published two months ago has not met with total support and has been attacked on several grounds—one inevitably being that it provides for a continuation of an autocratic monarchy. If as is most likely now the armed forces decide to do away with the monarchy altogether, then they also have to decide what and how to replace it.

There is the possibility of a temporary army junta taking direct control, perhaps using the present chief of staff, General Aman Mikael Andom, as a figurehead. The general

has been getting a lot of publicity recently and is certainly a popular figure both in and out of the armed forces. If his current "peace mission" to Eritrea shows signs of success, then he would be a likely choice.

Whatever the armed forces decide upon, there is a need for it to be carried out quickly. Since February there has been something of a vacuum in actual government. The civilian administration has found it difficult if not impossible to govern in the circumstances. The workers' committees in the various ministries

and government organizations take up a great deal of time in claims and accusations against higher officials, and while these are obviously considered necessary in the circumstances, it does inhibit efficient government.

There are still calls, especially in such unofficial papers as *Voice of the People*, for the arrest of other prominent figures of the old regime. A recent list included two grandsons-in-law of the Emperor—Ras Mengesha Seyoum, governor of Tigre province, and General Nega Tegen, governor of Begemeder province—as well as the Minister of the Interior, Colonel Belachew, and an assortment of security officials.

The continued moves against the prominent figures of the past have seemed to be the exclusive aim of the armed forces. While this is certainly understandable it has meant practical government has not made much progress.

A start is being made—Wollo province was declared a disaster area last week and the numbers of the anti-drought committee are to be greatly augmented. Attempts are being made to heal the running sores of the Eritrean problem: this week the Army announced that the students and teachers are to be used to organize and carry out programmes in literacy, social services and basic health in the countryside; and debates are also being allowed on the organization of political parties. Nevertheless such major items as land reform are being allowed to take place through individual peasant action rather than by any official directives and in the absence of any official criteria or limitations.

The danger inherent in the absence of positive government is that some of the reforms will fall by the wayside. Expectations raised by the revolution need to be satisfied and a start made on the implementation of those reforms that everybody agrees are necessary. Obviously the future government is something that needs major consideration, but it would be a tragedy if the new government were to get mired down in sterile debates about what to do with the last government, as they have shown signs of doing.

Patrick Gilkes



Democracy in action: Street demonstration in Addis Ababa.

Inside story of the US President's secret weapon

Strenuous efforts were made to prevent the publication of this latest book about the United States Central Intelligence Agency, and no wonder. One of the co-authors Victor Marchetti, served it for 14 years, and to my knowledge has helped to write the best book so far on what has been called the invisible government.

Mr Marchetti makes clear that the agency is not as sinister as that. It is not a secret second government, but a very private operational arm of the President of the United States. No commitment is made, no operation planned without his knowledge and consent.

It could not be otherwise. The CIA is part of the Executive Office of the President, but when operations have gone wrong Presidents have rarely blamed the popular assumption that some mysterious Mr X was responsible. A useful fiction, or cover to use the intelligence parlance, but for better or for worse the CIA is the instrument of presidential policy.

The reasons are obvious. American Presidents are not the only heads of government who tend to confuse their national interests with those of all mankind. Professor Jacques Barzun has said that the soul of the president is the model of us all, and certainly clandestine activity has a powerful attraction for most people. Moreover, the President does not have to justify the agency's clandestine activities to Congress or the American people, and having premature disclosure of the United States can prevent him from doing what he wants to do.

Some will ask, who can blame

him? The world is a messy and dangerous place. Large areas are governed or misgoverned by wild or ruthless men whose national interests and personal ambition are certainly not those of all mankind. The Russians interfere in the internal affairs of other countries. Why not the Americans? At least they age their own private chaps at heart, and are on our side.

Certainly the CIA is well-equipped for clandestine operations. It has its own stockpiles of weapons and bands of mercenaries to fight for democracy in the most unlikely places. It runs its own profit-making airlines, which take on normal charter work when they are not supporting clandestine wars such as the agency masterminded in Laos.

For instance, the international control commission in Vietnam has its own private planes from one of the agency's airlines. There must have been some quiet chuckling at headquarters in Langley, Virginia. After all, two communist countries were represented on the commission.

The agency is also run by decent chaps who really believe that they know what is best in this imperfect world. Mostly white Anglo-Saxon Protestants, or WASPs as ethnic-Americans call them, they mainly come from eastern private schools and Ivy League universities. (Unlike the FBI, most of whose agents were educated, or so it is said, at the night law school of Fordham University.)

They came to the intelligence game rather late. Only in 1939, the late Henry Stimson, the then Secretary of State and a prototype Wasp, closed down the

department's cryptanalytical section with the immortal words: "Gentlemen do not read each other's mail." Eight years later, when the agency was established, the Cold War was hotting up and the Republic's enemies were no gentlemen.

The founders were veterans of the wartime OSS, Office of Strategic Services, men very similar to the Englishmen from good families and schools who joined SOE, Special Operations, Europe. They thought that they were assuming the white man's burden from Britain. Being American WASPs, they had as much, if not more, self-confidence and self-righteousness as any Victorian British proscons.

They came to believe, to quote the authors, "that America is responsible for what happens in other countries and that it has an inherent right—a sort of Manifest Destiny—to intervene in other countries' internal affairs." In short, Bissell, a former chief of the agency's clandestine services, said that they "feel a higher loyalty... they are acting in obedience to that high loyalty."

Dangerous stuff, if not in this day and age and nonsense. Mr Marchetti obviously thinks so, although judging from his name he is not a Wasp. He is also a defector, as is his co-author, John Marks, who served briefly in Bureau of Intelligence and Research at the State Department. They are defectors in that they have turned against their own government.

They write with the passion generally associated with former communists who have seen the light and have been received into the Roman Catholic

church. Nevertheless, they know what they are writing about, and in spite of the 168 deletions ordered by a federal court they make many pertinent observations.

For instance, in the main lobby of the agency's headquarters is inscribed the passage from John, VIII, 32: "And ye shall know the truth, and the truth shall make you free." Certainly governments must have information if their commitments and decisions are to be sound, but they complain that the CIA is more interested in clandestine operations than in the gathering of information.

One reason they suggest, is that most of the directors began in clandestine operations. They like cloaks and daggers. Another may well be that the CIA is only one of the many American intelligence agencies, and with a comparatively small budget. Here is a table from the book:

Organization	Size and Cost of US Intelligence Community (Approximate)	Per Annot	Annual Budget
Central Intelligence Agency	16,500	\$750	
Defense Intelligence Agency	24,000	\$1,200	
Army Intelligence	5,000	\$200	
Navy Intelligence	38,000	\$700	
Air Force Intelligence	10,000	\$600	
National Reconnaissance Office	56,000	\$2,700	
Bureau of Intelligence and Research	350	\$80	
Federal Bureau of Investigation	800	\$40	
Atomic Energy Commission	300	\$20	
Treasury Department	300	\$20	
TOTAL	183,230	\$6,228	
Department of Defense agency			

The director of the CIA is also the Director of Central Intelligence, and is supposed to be the overlord. Except that he is the direct link between the intelligence community and the President, he is nothing of the sort. Each agency has its own objectives and loyalties, and they rarely coincide except in the widest sense. Hence the grossly expensive overlapping and bureaucratic rivalry.

Mr Marchetti and Mr Marks are naturally incensed, and not only because it is their tax dollars which are being mispent. Mr Colby, the present CIA director, no doubt thinks differently. Intelligence gathering is rather tedious. Much of the information is freely available. The secret agent of popular fiction has been largely replaced by the so-called spy satellites.

Computers have made the new secret codes unbreakable in practice. Closed societies such as the Soviet Union cannot be effectively penetrated. At least, the CIA has had few successes. Penkovsky worked for British intelligence and not the CIA.

But of course the main reason for the CIA's preoccupation with clandestine operations is that successive Presidents have wanted to intervene in other countries' affairs, to reorder them if possible to further American policy. It cannot be repeated too often that the CIA is its operational arm.

Perhaps Britain can afford to take a complacent view. The CIA probably has more Anglophiles than the State Department. Relations between the

CIA and British intelligence have been close, in spite of the Philby defection. Experience seems to have proved that they are natural allies, but since Watergate many Americans have been disturbed by repeated examples of unquestioned loyalty to the President or agencies such as the CIA which violated the Constitution.

The claim of national security has been misused too often. Mr Nixon's defence in the Watergate affair was only the most recent instance. Secret agencies are uneasy partners with egalitarian democratic government and the idea of individual liberty. The authors agree that there is no alternative to their precarious coexistence, but in his introduction Mr Marchetti makes the following bleak observation:

"It has been said that among the dangers faced by a democratic society in fighting totalitarian systems, such as fascism and communism, is that the democratic government runs the risk of imitating its enemies' methods and, thereby, destroying the very democracy that it is seeking to defend. I cannot help wondering if my government, by its concern with defending our democratic system or more intent upon imitating the methods of totalitarian regimes in order to maintain its already inordinate power over the American people."

Louis Heren

*The CIA and the Cult of Intelligence by Victor Marchetti and John D. Marks. Jonathan Cape Ltd, £3.95.

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The Times Diary

High drama but not many jokes

first Communist elected to the general council for the first time. The Communist Party of Great Britain, in a speech delivered in a quiet west of England accent using a quotation from a *Times* editorial to support its argument. He raised a laugh with his bitter description of the social contract's likely effect on wage negotiations: "Instead of their refusing to work, they are refusing to be asked."

There was a more easily recognizable joke from William Kennell of the Civil and Public Services Association, who produced what he said was a quotation from Marx-Grouche: "All we can do is raise our members from nothing to a condition of extreme poverty."

One of the most pungent speeches was by Terry Casey, the plump secretary of the National Association of Schoolmasters. He criticized the notion that money we spent ourselves was well spent, while money spent by the state was squandered. On the contrary, he said, we tended to spend our money on overeating, leading to obesity (laughter), smoking, leading to lung cancer, or motorcycling, leading to pollution.

There was a buzz of excitement when Scanlon, who said he had not intended to intervene, went to the rostrum. His speech, delivered with passion, was the first sign that part of the split in the movement would be healed. He stressed that his union would abide by the majority decision of Congress. One final joke came from Murray, who spoke of the

opponents of the social contract as appealing, like St Francis, to the birds and the beasts, but not yet. Then came the emotional moment when Gill, responding to Murray's appeal, agreed to withdraw the engineers' own divisive motion and not vote against the general council's report.

I felt sorry for the man from the Musicians' Union who had to follow this excitement by introducing a motion about the abuse of the chat and scramble for the exits. The delegates had had enough theatre for one day.

Apathy

Nobody has much enjoyed the excessively windy and wet day in Brighton, but those with most cause to complain are the 10 intrepid Glaswegians here to rustle support from doubting unions for their projected newspaper, the *Scottish Daily News*. To save money from their fighting fund, they decided to sleep in two tents on Brighton's municipal camping ground.

In the gales of early Tuesday, one of their tents blew away while they were sleeping. They have been forced to provide jobs for those who lost them as a result of the paper's closure. They see it more positively, as a chance to build a paper supported by the unions and controlled by its workers, which will give fairer editorial treatment to the trade union movement than is customary in the capitalist-owned press.

the station for the meeting. Most delegates preferred to either accept the hospitality of the Metropole hotel, or to hobnob with each other or with representatives of other large industrial concerns who are here trying to keep their labour relations sweet.

I arrived at the pub 20 minutes after the advertised start, and I was the first. Finally about a dozen people turned up, barely outnumbering the Glaswegians. They are a brave and thick-skinned group, as they must be if they are not to be quite disheartened by the lack of enthusiasm for their project. They seek investments from the unions to make up for the additional £200,000 they need to buy the plant of the old *Scottish Daily Express* and to give them starting capital. The Government have promised help if they can raise half the money themselves.

The men, former employees from all departments of the *Scottish Daily Express*, stressed that their object is not simply to provide jobs for those who lost them as a result of the paper's closure. They see it more positively, as a chance to build a paper supported by the unions and controlled by its workers, which will give fairer editorial treatment to the trade union movement than is customary in the capitalist-owned press.

Yet the unions are loth to hand over any money. Richard Brighshaw, the powerful general secretary of Natopso, did intervene with Sir Max Aitken, chairman of Beaverbrook Newspapers, and had £100,000 knocked off the asking price for the plant, now down to £1,500,000. But Brighshaw seems unlikely to follow that gesture with any of his union's

sat last, a convincing case for home rule...



money and, so far, no other union in the industry has shown any greater enthusiasm to participate.

The meeting was attended by a handful of delegates from the Amalgamated Union of Engineering Workers (AUEW) and by representatives of two extreme left newspapers—the *Morning Star* and *Militant*. The leftists angered some of the Glasgow workers by making philosophical speeches about the need to nationalize the whole press. This, they were told, would not help with the practical problem of raising the cash.

Not many projects of this kind succeed. The men from Glasgow, however, are so clearly determined and tenacious that the success of this one is a more open question.

Rich sauce

You do not have to be a millionaire to shop at Asprey's, but it will not prejudice your standing with the staff if you are one. The store has its spattering of trinkets and gadgets and these, together with luxury foodstuffs, are shown yesterday at a press preview of the Christmas presents people may hope to receive this year.

The cheapest item on offer was a leather sugar bag for horses at £2. It carries nine cubes of Sugar and Asprey's say that they might supply you with the sugar cubes without extra charge, making it a real bargain. Then there is a silver-plated newsstand for £25. The stand is designed to carry a newspaper on the breakfast table, and saves the breakfast from the indignity of having to prop his *Times* against a newspaper bottle. Up the market a bit is a press for making duck sauce. This sells for £500 and about one a year is bought. The last was sold to a Japanese who wanted to use it for crushing pineapples.

Asprey's is not keen to talk about its customers. In the old days they were British aristocrats. Percy Hubbard, who is 85 in December, and will have been with Asprey's for 69 years tomorrow, said that in his young and humble days—he started in the stockroom when he was 15 and is now a director—the men invariably wore silk hats which they doffed when they entered "the portals".

These days customers are international businessmen and shaihs, quite a different breed. "Death duties have killed the aristocracy," said Hubbard.

PMS



THE STRAINS ON THE CONTRACT

Opposed by only a small minority of the Trades Union Congress and by none of the most powerful unions in the movement, the social contract becomes a more considerable document. The circumstances of the last minute reconciliation in the midst of all the delegates gives the contract more emotional authority than it would ever have acquired from a similar compromise evolved in the private bargaining process before the congress began. The victory was more one for solidarity than for logic, for the engineers gained nothing that they had not been offered in the earlier talks and Mr Ken Gill, in withdrawing the motion, made it clear that their reservations about the policy remained undiminished.

Their real objections had a streak of realistic scepticism that was seldom felt (or at least seldom expressed) by the other delegates. Very few other speakers took up Mr Callaghan's blunt warning on Tuesday that what was in prospect was not a period of slower or static growth but one of actually diminishing standards of living. If there is less to go round, then an agreement to ask for no more than one had already, in real terms, is likely to lead to the same conflicts as the old competition for

higher rewards. Mr Len Murray protested that it was no dishonourable target to defend living standards next year on the assumption that there would be limited scope for real increases in consumption. Not dishonourable, certainly, but it may not be realistic.

It is right to acknowledge the patience, diplomacy and idealism which has brought the contract to this point. It does offer a hope, and its success would be a major advance in the history of industrial relations. But the evidence of yesterday's debate is that few trade unionists as yet have the measure of the stresses that the bargain will have to endure. Mr Murray was not the only speaker to soften the issue, to declare that a restraint was not really the kernel of the matter, or that the words of the contract do not in terms speak of restraint at all. The emphasis many speakers laid on the need to secure the reelection of a Labour government testifies to the solidarity of the feelings, but not necessarily to their durability.

In so diverse an organization as the TUC there are bound to be interests that compete. Even as they disclaimed any intention of being divisive, speakers from white collar and public service

Transformation of Scottish Highlands

From the President of the National Trust for Scotland

Sir, I was sorry to read the letter from Mr Robert Bruce of Sumburgh, Shetland (August 29), especially as you saw fit to give it the headline "from the Lord Lieutenant for the County of Zeeland". Those of us who are commissioned as Lieutenants of counties are entitled to have opinions, and, subject to some restraints, to express them; but not on such controversial matters, as Her Majesty's Lieutenants.

As for Mr Bruce's views on the Kyle of Lachalsh-Drumbuie area, it is clear that he, like many others, has not effectively mastered this subject. The development at Drumbuie for which planning consent was recently refused would have been of a character quite different from "development in the Highlands and Islands" in a wider and more general sense. It would have meant a vast construction right on top of a very small community in a district where, locally speaking, unemployment is at a minimum.

Mr Bruce will know that in the history of Shetland there were reasons for the bad relations between landlords and tenants that were inherited by the present generation. As the former Lord of Fair Isle in particular, where the National Trust for Scotland has had at least a degree of success in repopulating and restoring the community, he will be aware that an endeavour to revert to the former state of population is not merely a question of bringing in people to live in a pattern of former times, even with "a decent wage" added.

Reactions to weak government

From Mr Robert Skidelsky

Sir, Professor Howard's letter (September 3) is a neat example of the confusion of cause and effect. He seems to argue that our consensus is breaking down as a result of irresponsible polarization, when in fact polarization is the result, and chief symptom, of the breakdown of consensus.

His mistake arises from assuming a British trading consensus without inquiring into the conditions which created it, and the conditions necessary for its restoration. He is thus led to the conclusion that a statement by party leaders that the consensus is holding will in fact cause it to hold: an attitude reminiscent of King Canute.

The modern British consensus arose from the combination of wartime unity and postwar Keynesianism. The first created the necessary social climate for the pursuit of the second; the second, in turn, was relied upon to perpetuate the first. Continuous growth was to be the solvent of the class struggle. Everyone could become richer without anyone being hurt.

This scenario for consensus is now in ruins. Perhaps it was never entirely plausible, since growth creates new demands which cannot be satisfied simply by its aggregate increment. At any rate, the industrial and political assaults on it, coupled with the increasing malfunctioning of the world economy, have brought the postwar dream, in its simple-minded form, to an end. The realization has suddenly dawned that, as Keynes himself once put it, "we live in the realm of the finite" where "everything we do is alternative and not additional to something else".

The present turmoil is an inescapable part of the search for a new framework for economic progress. A favourable political outcome will depend in large measure on the intellectual seriousness we bring to the analysis of our present problems. Professor Howard's call for resounding declarations is no more helpful than Col Stirling's Doomsday preparations.

Yours faithfully,
ROBERT SKIDELSKY,
Flat 1,
166 Cromwell Road, SW5,
September 3.

That monopoly in a capitalist system can be misused is well recognized by the existence of the Monopolies Commission in the United Kingdom, and the Monopoly Legislation in other countries notably the United States.

This monopoly power of the Left can also harm our social fabric was implicitly recognized by the Labour Government when it published *In Place of Strife*, and the sorry defeat of this document at the hands of the trade unions tells its own story.

A microcosm of the present misuse of trade union power is evident in Southwark today. Libraries have been closed and refuse has not been collected as a result of a trade union protest against the decision of the Governing Body, Labour Council's Establishment Committee to transfer the direct labour force to a separate council organization controlled by a committee of the council but managed by a firm of outside consultants.

This decision was taken in the interests of efficiency and economy after thorough investigation by both the borough's officers and committees.

If trade unions are seen to treat their own elected representatives in such a cavalier manner then it is no wonder that some of the electorate are fearful for democracy.

Monopoly power, in whatever disguise, is not compatible with a democratic society.

Yours faithfully,
DAVID SMITH,
10 Langford Green,
Champion Hill, SES.

Turner at the Academy

From Mr Evelyn Joll

Sir, Professor John Hale's letter (August 31), explaining the reasons why the National Gallery Trustees decided not to lend five key pictures to the Turner bicentenary exhibition seems, at a first reading, to carry a good deal of weight. Yet, on reflection, some of his arguments are less than convincing.

It is not quite illogical to refuse to lend "The Fighting Temeraire", "The Evening Star" and "Rain, Steam and Speed" and his fellow Trustees must not perfectly well that the pleasure and instruction to be derived from looking at comparable pictures are infinitely greater if they are hanging in the same room than if they are on the grounds.

The question of museum charges was doubtless a burning issue at the time the Trustees met to consider the loan of the Turners. Now, thankfully, the controversy is over and no longer a factor which should carry any weight in the matter of whether to lend in Burlington House or not. Besides, the Tate Trustees were equally strongly opposed to museum charges and they have given the organizers of the Turner exhibition the free run of their collection.

But the over-riding argument which should have swayed the Trustees' caution and doubt, is surely this: the bicentenary exhibition is going to be the most important and the most beautiful exhibition of the work of a British artist ever to be held. This will be so even if the National Gallery lends only two pictures. Yet, by their decision, the Trustees are depriving the exhibition to a degree that needs more justification than is provided by Professor Hale's letter.

I am sure there must be many of your readers who would support Mr Bernard, Mr Noonan, Professor Hume and myself in urging the Trustees to reconsider their decision (it is certainly not too late to do so) and to agree to add to their loans, at any rate, "The Fighting Temeraire", "The Evening Star" and "Rain, Steam and Speed".

Yours faithfully,
EVELYN JOLL, Managing Director,
The National Gallery, Ltd.,
43 Old Bond Street, W1,
September 4.

From Mr J. H. Mingay

Sir, Posterity has not exactly followed Turner's own wishes in the matter of his paintings, but perhaps for his bi-centenary we might follow the spirit of his account of his attitude to them.

"When he heard of anyone's trying to obtain this or the other separate subject, as more beautiful than the rest, 'What is the use of them,' he said, 'but together?' The only thing he would sometimes say was 'Keep them together'; he seemed to care how they were injured, so that they were kept in a series which would give the key to their meaning".

Yours faithfully,
J. H. MINGAY,
10 Hamble Close, SE12.

Music in Britain

From Mr Stephen Reiss

Sir, While we all deplore the relative lack of contemporary British music in the concert programmes of today, we would be less than honest if we pretended that the only cause of the trouble was shortage of money. Our contemporary composers, generally speaking, show very little consideration for the hand that is only too anxious to feed them. Works are not produced in the time, quantity and duration differ fundamentally from those required, performing difficulties are considered the hallmark of quality, and the taste of the public is totally despised.

It is this really the manner in which the great masterpieces of the past were created? May we not be in some danger of forgetting that art is first of all communication and not the opportunity for a display of defiant self-indulgence?

It could well be argued that the alienation of the artist from his public has increased in direct ratio to the amount of public money spent in support of contemporary art. Conceivably it is precisely because we have been prepared to excuse the lack of professionalism the unwillingness to fulfil what used to be considered a straightforward contract between the artist and his patron, that the contemporary artist now has so few friends.

On July 11, 12 and 15, 1915, long before the public subsidy of music was even considered, the LSO gave three concerts devoted exclusively to British music written during the previous ten years. The work of sixteen different composers was represented. The LSO would gladly do the same again if the composers could guarantee an audience of not less than two thousand for each concert (paying normal Festival Hall prices), instrumentation within the resources of the normal symphony orchestra, average soloist requirements and that not more than four rehearsals per programme would suffice.

STEPHEN REISS,
Administrator,
London Symphony Orchestra,
1 Montague Street, WC1.

Piddletrenthide et al

From Mr Aidan Reynolds

Sir, Mr Moore's choice of parish for retirement is indeed difficult to fault (Piddletrenthide with Aston Pancras and Plush), but for sheer pleasure to the ear the redeployment of ecclesiastical strength in Yorkshire which appeared in your columns some 14 years ago remains supreme: "the Rev G. D. Beagrie, Vicar of Kexby with Wilberforce, to be Vicar of Boswall with Buttercrambe".

Yours faithfully,
AIDAN REYNOLDS,
111, The Town Hall,
New Street, N1,
Bedfordshire.

THE MASSACRES IN CYPRUS

The allegations and counter-allegations of atrocities in Cyprus make doubly depressing reading. They are depressing because there can be no doubt that at least part of what is alleged on both sides is true. And they are depressing because the deaths and suffering of innocent people, horrible enough in themselves, are immediately turned into propaganda, embittering the conflict still further, holding up talks on the humanitarian (let alone political) issues, and quite possibly sowing the seeds of yet further atrocities in the future.

The Greeks are much given to labelling the Turks as "barbarians", and the Turks understandably feel that this is a case of the pot calling the kettle black. As so often in such conflicts, the history of violence and massacre on both sides is too long for it to be worth inquiring who started it. What one can say is that since 1967, and thanks partly to the patient, unspectacular but often dangerous work of the United Nations forces, there had been little or no violence on Cyprus between the two communities. Instead, there was growing violence within the Greek community. Eoka B made attempts on Archbishop Makarios's life and kidnapped his ministers. He retaliated by forming the Tactical Reserve Force, which was clearly no tender in its treatment of those whom it arrested.

The first reports of massacre

and mass graves in this present crisis concerned the treatment of Archbishop Makarios's supporters by the Greek-officered National Guard which seized power on July 15. The Turks were not immediately affected but, given Mr Sampson's record in the incidents of 1963-4, they had good reason to fear that their turn would be next. With the benefit of hindsight it is difficult not to regret that Britain did not intervene at that stage to disarm the National Guard and restore the legal government. Such action could not have revived the old racial passions in the way that a Turkish intervention was bound to do.

As soon as the Turks invaded, thousands of Turkish Cypriots were taken hostage by the Greeks, and it can hardly now be doubted that atrocities were committed at this stage by Greek Cypriots against Turkish Cypriots. It is equally clear that the invading Turkish troops showed little humanity towards the civilian population. The many stories of murder, rape and looting told by Greek Cypriot refugees from the villages around Kyrenia can hardly have been all pure invention, and the Turks did not improve their case by ordering the United Nations Forces to leave the area.

The same pattern was repeated when the Turks launched their second big military operation on August 14. It is significant that

this is the date on which the massacre at Maratha is alleged to have taken place. One of the survivors, Mrs Siddika Kemal, has said that she and her husband escaped from Maratha "as soon as they heard that the second Turkish offensive had begun".

It was after this, while they were hiding in a cave, that they saw the men of the nearby Greek village come and take the inhabitants away. The massacre, rightly condemned by the Cyprus Government "regardless of which side is responsible for it", must objectively be seen both as a massacre by Greeks and as a consequence of the Turkish offensive, and thus casts fresh doubt on the wisdom of that offensive as a means of protecting Turkish Cypriots.

President Clerides's government did well to suggest an independent United Nations inquiry, even though their attempt to suggest that the victims may have been Greeks does not sound very convincing on evidence produced so far. Certainly they have legitimate grounds for anxiety about the fate of Greeks reported missing in the Turkish-occupied area, and unlike the Turks they are not in a position to investigate for themselves and publicize the results. Equally the Turks have legitimate grounds for anxiety about Turkish Cypriots in the south. But these anxieties are no reason to hold up talks on the "humanitarian issues". Quite the reverse.

Management of childbirth

From Mrs R. A. Daley

Sir, Whilst agreeing with most of Professor Rhodes's comments (August 22), I should not dismiss Jean Robinson's work so lightly. As Professor Rhodes must know, it is an extraordinarily difficult task to organize research and concerted action among people who have suffered severe emotional and physical distress, and more and more new mothers sadly now come into this category.

Where things go wrong in pregnancy and confinement, no sane woman would be anything but grateful for the help which is available from medical science and skilled nursing. What many of us are so concerned about is the tendency for that science to be ill-applied and indeed to be the cause of great emotional and physical pain.

It is the fact that it is not a minority of women who are suffering in this way that Mrs Robinson has been instrumental in bringing to public attention.

In pursuing the question of induction on an evidential basis, Professor Rhodes might do worse than consider the nature of women coming to his hospital for their second baby, having had their first induced to suit a hospital timetable elsewhere.

Yours faithfully,
ROSEMARY A. DALEY,
33 Leppards Road,
Clapham Park, SW4,
August 23.

Pop festivals

From Mr Greville Jenner, QC,
Labour MP for Leicester West

Sir, The survival of the Rule of Law ultimately depends upon consent—upon the acceptance by decent citizens whose behaviour the law is to regulate that the law is fair and just. The Industrial Relations Act illustrated the nature of consent by bringing the law itself (along with courts and judges) into rapid disrepute—with potentially devastating results for our society.

Young people are entitled to enjoy their music in freedom. If they are to do so without impinging on the rights and enjoyment of others, then they must be provided with adequate facilities. It is because so few such facilities exist at present that the unhappy Windsor Great Park episode occurred. If no positive alternative is offered then I fear that law or no law—it will happen again.

It is useless then, for Alan Glynn (September 2) to demand about so-called "mob rule" and to demand the toughening and enforcement of the law. The vast majority of the "mob" at Windsor—as at all "pop" festivals and concerts—were (as the Rev F. N. Welbourn so eloquently testified in his letter (September 3)) normal, law-abiding, lively young people, bent on enjoying their music "in spontaneous equality and mutual tolerance".

One answer and the only positive one I have yet heard of—is to create at least one, carefully sited, permanent "pop" festival site, with all those essential toilet, eating, first aid and wet weather facilities which are absent at Windsor. It should be government or local authority sponsored, but operated by young people and the "pop" music industry with the maximum of freedom and the minimum of "establishment" interference.

Yours faithfully,
GREVILLE JANNER,
House of Commons,
September 3.

Rural motorways

From Professor Alastair Buchan

Sir, It hardly becomes Mr David Morris (August 27) to adopt such a patronizing, nanny-knows-best tone in answering Mrs Maude's strictures (August 5) on motorway planning in the Midlands. I have neither his nor her knowledge of the whole far as the proposed M40 extension from Oxford to Birmingham is concerned. I have been unable to detect much of the sagacious, patriotic planning to which Mr Morris lays claim.

He says *inter alia* that the West Midlands must have good communications with the rest of the country. But what has started any interested person in the face, especially since the publication of the Department of the Environment's Trunk Road Map in April, 1973, is the absence of any planned link of motorway standard between Birmingham and the major European port of Southampton. Instead the Midlands are supposed to have a second motorway link with London, a plan that has been rationalized on the grounds that the M1 will be saturated by the early 1980s, and also that such a road will save money by relieving congestion on the north-south roads in Warwickshire and Oxfordshire.

It is true that the M1 is becoming fully used (I happen just to have travelled its length), but the calculation that it would become saturated was made under different economic conditions, and whether it will prove true or not depends on factors beyond our present ken. The other argument is even more dubious of official duplicity. When the Department published a consultation document on the route of the M40 extension this summer, it did not mention the fact that for the first time there was any effect on driving congestion on the A423 (Oxford-Banbury) or the A43 (Oxford-Northampton) it would be necessary, and that it had in mind, to build at least one major new feeder road at great cost to amenity to connect the M40 extension with the Oxford ring roads (which already carry a lot of east-west traffic turning south) or the west-bound A40 and the M4. And even so, as far as travellers and export traffic bound for the Continent are concerned, one end road would simply be to funnel a heavy flow down the A34 from Oxford to Win-

chester which on present plans is only to be an improved trunk road, and such roads are, as Mr Morris points out, dangerous.

It now appears that the M40 extension may not be implemented for some years for reasons of economy. I hope the intervening period will be used completely to reassess communications between the Midlands and the South, while continuing to alleviate existing bottlenecks by by-passes, without trying to palm off bureaucratic compromises as strategic planning.

More than that we need new methods of debate about public policy. The following quotation from Bertrand de Jouvenel aptly describes the problem. "It is so very easy to pretend that a certain decision is dictated by a valid forecast as long as this forecast is kept secret. Once public opinion can neither criticize the forecast, nor consider whether the decision is appropriate for decisions that are 'public' (in the sense of 'governmental') must be 'public' (in the sense of 'publicly expounded').".

Yours faithfully,
ALASTAIR BUCHAN,
Waterloo House,
Brill,
Buckinghamshire,
September 2.

Royal Agricultural Hall

From Councillor Donald Hoodless

Sir, Recent complaints of political prevarication in relation to the Royal Agricultural Hall must not be left unanswered. The issue boils down to an application by the owner for planning permission for a substantial office development on the site, with the possible retention of the main hall. The retention will only be, I fear, at public expense; had the Imperial War Museum taken it over it would have been the taxpayer's purse: if it is to be for some unspecified community use, it will be the ratepayer's. If an unwillingness to commit large sums of public money in this way whilst others walk off with suburban development rights is "political prevarication" then I plead guilty and commend it to others.

The concern of your correspondent John Griffin (August 24) for the underprivileged of Islington and his ability to play the common man's card is touching. But I fail to see how a

privately owned office development will assist them. I would go further and suggest that all residents of Islington are potentially two-time losers: first there is the danger that they will end up paying for large sums to keep the hall; second, any wealth created from an office development will not be available to them to assist in the regeneration of the rest of the Angel area or for urban renewal in other parts of the borough.

The sooner development land is brought into public ownership at existing use value, the better. In such a case the ratepayer would be able to involve themselves positively in urban renewal for the benefit of the whole community instead of having to play a passive role through the granting of planning permissions from which they derive no benefit.

Yours faithfully,
DONALD HOODLESS,
Deputy Leader,
Islington Borough Council,
1, The Town Hall,
Upper Street, N1,
August 28.

From Mr J. Hewish

Sir, I have yet to experience a motorway system, but one of the three "solid" reasons in support of one for the Midlands, put forward by the former County Surveyor for Warwick (August 27) is savorful. He claims that motorways are approximately three times as safe as the trunk roads they relieve, and cites the figure of 69 fatalities in three years on the A1 in Yorkshire in support of it.

The figure for the M1 in 1972 alone is 79, and for the M6, 82. These motorways are not, at a rough times the length of the A1 in Yorkshire, so the fatality rate is about the same. Is the safety of motorways just something else that those who are working so assiduously for the suburbanization of the whole of Britain would like us to believe?

Yours faithfully,
J. HEWISH,
Flat 3,
47 Dartmouth Park Hill, NWS,
August 28.

THE FAILURES IN CARE FOR MARIA COLWELL

Maria Colwell was born on March 25, 1965. For the first six years of her life she was fostered by her aunt and uncle, and for most of that time she was in the care of the East Sussex County Council by order of the Hove juvenile court. In November, 1971, her mother applied to the court for the revocation of the care order and the return of her child. The county council did not oppose the application, and the court granted it. Maria was taken home to her mother and stepfather where, by another order of the court, the county council remained responsible for her supervision. Fourteen months later, a few weeks before her eighth birthday, she died of multiple injuries received at the hands of her stepfather, who was found guilty of her murder, a finding of manslaughter being substituted by the Court of Appeal. Her death was the culmination of months of ill-treatment.

Something had gone disastrously and tragically wrong with the public arrangements for looking after children in need of care and protection. A committee of three, under the chairmanship of Mr T. G. Field-Fisher, QC, was set up to find out what it was that went wrong. Apart from the observation that "it is upon society as a whole that the ultimate blame must rest", which is either empty of meaning or untrue, their report gives a most valuable picture of the social service in action and makes a fair apportionment of responsibility. It is not unanimous, but the differences are more of emphasis than otherwise. Miss Olive Stephenson is more lenient in

her comments on particular social workers engaged in the case and more conscious of the difficulties of their task. But all agree that individual mistakes and errors of judgment were made—though the significance of them is much more evident in hindsight than it could have been at the time—and all agree that primarily the trouble was a failure of system: the failure of professionals and case-workers in a multiplicity of agencies to compare notes with one another, or even to be aware of one another's activity in the same case; and the failure of administrators to devise and maintain a system which had safeguards against the consequences of only-to-be-expected human error.

Evidently there is no one simple organizational reform, like the administrative integration of all welfare functions, which is going to prevent these kinds of failure. The points of contact between public servants and private citizens, even those who do not present any kind of "problem" to authority, are by now so many and various that administrative partitions are unavoidable. If relevant information is to be better shared it will have to be by means of a greater flow of paper or greater alertness among field workers to pass on and look out for information which might be to the point.

There is, however, one point at which the need for a change in procedure stands out very clearly from this report. The turning point in the outward drama of Maria Colwell's life was the hearing before the Hove

juvenile court in November 1971 when the care order was discharged permitting Maria's mother to regain custody of her. The application went through more or less on the nod, the magistrates having before them the social worker's report and hearing brief evidence from Maria's mother. As the report of the county council had decided that the inquiry must now be judged to be wrong, but which were far from careless or perverse) not to oppose a course which led to Maria's removal from her foster-parents and restoration to her mother and stepfather, there was no examination before the court of the arguments for not allowing this to happen. Yet the arguments for and against, in the light of the evidence considered by the county council, were fairly evenly matched—and had it been someone's duty to argue the case against further evidence would certainly have been brought forth.

The committee of inquiry recommends that in this type of situation a second opinion of an independent social worker should always be available to the court—"the local authority are, after all, an actual party to the proceedings". The Secretary of State, in her comments of the report, adds that she is considering for possible inclusion in a Children's Bill next session the provision that in certain court proceedings the child's interests should be protected by separate legal representation. These improvements can now be seen to be necessary.

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Greville says that there were perhaps 500,000 people present on this occasion, and only one man was killed, the Duke of Wellington's most dangerous political opponent and the one from whom he had most to fear.

Yours faithfully,
J. S. LEATHERBARROW,
Overdale,
34 Highfield Road,
Malvern Link,
Worcestershire.

The engine passed over his leg and thigh and the victim was heard to exclaim "This is the death of me". He was conveyed on a board to Eccles vicarage, a nearby convenient house, where he was tended by the last Mrs Blackburne, the wife of the vicar, and where he died nine hours after the accident.

Greville says that it was the Earl of Wilton at whose house at Heaton Park about six miles away some of the party had been staying, who helped to convey Huddleson to the vicarage and who saved his life for a few hours by knowing how to tie up the artery. Amputation was not

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Overdale,
34 Highfield Road,
Malvern Link,
Worcestershire.

First railway accident

From Canon J. S. Leatherbarrow

Sir, Your writer (August 26) is in error in describing William Huskisson as having been carried dying into Liverpool Street Station. The circumstances of his death are minutely described in contemporary newspapers. The accident took place at Parkside, where the train stopped to take in water. Having alighted to shake hands with the Duke of Wellington, Huskisson was run down by the Rocket as he was attempting to reenter his own carriage.

The engine passed over his leg and thigh and the victim was heard to exclaim "This is the death of me". He was conveyed on a board to Eccles vicarage, a nearby convenient house, where he was tended by the last Mrs Blackburne, the wife of the vicar, and where he died nine hours after the accident.

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Confusion in the White House causes Wall St to fall 15 points

From Frank Vogel, Washington, Sept 4

Reports in the American press today that senior White House officials do not expect President Ford to make any major economic policy changes until 1975 added to the sharply downward trend of share prices on Wall Street today.

After an hour of trading the Dow Jones industrial average was off by more than 20 points, but it recovered to close 15.33 points down, at 648. The market, like everybody else, is becoming utterly confused by White House economic statements and decisions.

Mr Kenneth Rush, chief economic policy adviser to the President, was asked, according to the White House, to become chairman of the new council on wages and prices and yet today it was announced by the White House that he has been asked to become ambassador to France.

Newspapers today reported that Mr William Salzman, the President's new special adviser on economic matters, said the President was unlikely to take any major policy decisions on the economy until next year.

Only last week Mr Salzman said the President was likely to announce new policies shortly after the major economic conference scheduled here for September 27 and 28.

It is that the staff members of the White House are entirely in the foreign exchanges but also in the Eurodollar market, as a worldwide review of bank credit lines resulted in a tightening of credit limits for all but the very best names.

He added that the collapse of this bank "virtually paralysed" trading in Deutsche Marks and forced the West German Federal Bank to intervene to support the currency with a total of \$31.6m. The report also points out that the collapse had considerable psychological impact on the Swiss market, forcing intervention by the Swiss National Bank.

However, in contrast to other European exchange markets, trading in the Paris market remained active following the Herstatt collapse. This is the first official report to confirm that central banks actively intervened in the exchange markets after the Herstatt failure.

But Herstatt was by no means the only cause for concern. Mr Coombs reports that because of consistent pressures on the dollar the Fed repeatedly had to draw on its swap lines with the West German Federal Bank in the first half of the year.

On July 15-17 the New York Fed sold \$57.5m equivalent of German marks and \$4.4m equivalent of Belgian francs.

The Deutsche Mark weakened as a consequence of the Herstatt failure and the Fed moved to buy the German currency partly in an effort to repay its Deutsche Mark swap drawings of earlier in the year, when it had to support the dollar.

Mr Coombs reveals in his report that in this operation the Fed managed to buy \$132.3m equivalent of marks from the Italian central bank.

Nation Life hopes to make full repayment

By Andrew Wilson

Nation Life policyholders were told at a creditors' meeting held yesterday in London that there were apparently net assets of about £25m and liabilities of about £26m. However, Mr Arthur Cheek, the Official Receiver, emphasised that these figures were only an indication of the position, based on a draft balance sheet as at June 30, 1974.

At the meeting Mr William Stern, who headed the troubled assurance group, said that the income bond policyholders would be repaid "100p in the pound—and I will stand by that". He refused to comment on the position of the various property bond holders.

Around 700 people heard Mr Cheek outline Nation Life's history since 1925 and the rapid changes of ownership and direction since 1969 when the group began to emphasize life assurance rather than its traditional industrial assurance activities, and particularly the issue of property bonds.

Details surrounding the purchase of the Bournemouth site, acquired for £5m, and the subsequent attempt to sell it for larger sums were then explained. Mr Cheek added that in 1973, a year after the company has passed into Mr Stern's hands, properties in Camden were bought for just over £1m.

It seemed that, as the group was already committed to the Bournemouth site, it was decided to put these properties on the market. Early this year, after the properties had remained unsold, Mr Stern was asked to put at least £500,000 of extra capital into the group but was unable to do so immediately.

An insurance company, the Alexander Howden group, offered to buy the group but its valuation of the Bournemouth site at only £2m would have pushed down property unit prices by 40 per cent. Nation Life, rather than have a run on its bonds, decided to suspend payments and apply for a winding up petition.

Mr Cheek said that premium income in the year to June, 1973, amounted to £19m, of which £18m related to single premium income bonds. He said that premiums were continuing to be collected but these were put into a separate account and, it was hoped, returned to the people who had paid them.

After some procedural confusion, Mr Gerhard Weiss, a partner with W. H. Corke & Co., the company's Official Receiver's special manager, was appointed liquidator and a committee of inspection of five policyholders was also elected.

Shares slip as liquidity problem rumours persist

By Our Financial Staff

Share prices were unsettled in London yesterday by fresh rumours of impending troubles in the financial sector. Losses were extended during the last hour of trading on early reports of losses on Wall Street and in European stock markets. The FT index lost 5 points to 210.2, and The Times index 1.67 to 82.87.

Rumours of liquidity problems at Mercantile Credit were firmly denied by Mr Arthur Adey, deputy chairman and managing director of the big instalment credit group.

He stressed that there was "no basis" for the rumours, adding that "we have ample funds available". Following his statement, shares in Mercantile Credit rallied from 16p to close at 18p, a net loss of 7p on the session.

After weaker yesterday were shares in Barclays Bank, 10p off at 145p, and Commercial Union, 6p off at 87p. Both are major stakeholders in Mercantile Credit.

Market report, page 20

How the markets moved

Price Commission in talks on code change for Phase Four

By Hugh Clayton

Talks about Price Code changes for Phase Four began yesterday when members of the Price Commission met Mrs Williams, Secretary of State for Prices and Consumer Protection.

Mrs Williams has made it clear to industrialists that she is sympathetic to pleas for a change in the Phase Three clause that forces manufacturers to absorb half of their increased labour costs.

But Sir Arthur Cockfield, chairman of the commission, devoted his last public appearance to emphasizing that labour costs were overeating those for raw materials in contributing to inflation.

No statement was issued after yesterday's meeting and tomorrow the Phase Four talks will continue when leaders of the Retail Consortium meet officials at Mrs Williams's department.

They will be armed with a detailed survey of the way in which price and profit controls have affected companies. Their main case will again be that the cut in gross profit margin reference levels has been damaging.

The Confederation of British Industry will see Mrs Williams towards the middle of the month. Despite her hints of concessions in some areas the CBI is maintaining implacable opposition to all statutory control of prices and profits while wages remain uncontrolled.

Go-ahead for dearer poultry and beer

By Maurice Corina

British Air Ferries, the independent airline owned by Transmeriden Air Cargo, is to cut back its operations because of a fall in passenger revenue and the general state of the travel industry.

Mr Michael Keegan, the chairman, said yesterday it was no use pretending to his staff that their industry was not going through a difficult period. The correct policy had to be a reduction in operations.

He said the airline, which operates from Southend and Stansted airports, would be disposing of three of its fleet of eight aircraft, with staff cut by about 90.

Some 40 voluntary resignations had been obtained, and another 20 permanent staff would lose their jobs. A further 30 people employed on a temporary basis were also going.

Leyland strikers go back

By Edward Townsend

Workers at British Leyland's Birmingham transmission plant, whose strike has lasted 18 weeks, returned to work last night.

The 2,000 strikers agreed to resume work after the company offered them a lump sum payment of £160,000 BLMC hourly paid workers instead of threshold payments to return to union assurances of better industrial relations. The company has estimated that a full threshold payment would cost £45m a year.

The company's lump sum offer would bring a swift end to the month-long strike by 450 clerical staff at the commercial vehicle factory at Bathgate, West Lothian, which has made 4,500 production men idle. Shop stewards yesterday travelled to Brighton to discuss the issue with national officials attending the TUC conference.

British Leyland said that further negotiations could now take place. Full resumption of work at the Oxford and Birmingham assembly plants is expected today.

On other pages

Canning Town Glass statement on Monday

By Our Industrial Editor

Mr R. C. Miquel, chairman of Canning Town Glass Works, is to make a statement to the annual shareholders meeting on Monday on the outcome of investigations into the past actions of certain former directors.

Mr Miquel, who is also head of the Scotch whisky concern, Arthur Bell & Sons, took over Canning Town chairman from Lord Brevinty who, after the election, became Under-Secretary of State for Defence for the Army. The Labour Party has held shares.

In his Budget statement earlier this year, Mr Healey said the board would increase industrial coal prices from the beginning of April to provide £270m in a full year, while a further increase of production around £100m would be made in the autumn.

It had also been agreed that the price of domestic coal sold by the board to coal merchants would be increased from November 1 by amounts ranging between £2.50 to £3 a ton.

Mr Eric Varley, Secretary of State for Energy, is believed to be anxious that coal prices should be lifted to more realistic levels in the context of the Government's overall energy policy and also because of the effects of current price levels on the NCB's deficit.

Equally, he is conscious of the political implications of introducing higher prices for industry in the final run-up to an election.

On the other hand, the NCB firmly believes that a delay in introducing higher prices would be disastrous, since most of the board's short-term financial planning has been based on the fact that it would be able to secure the additional revenue in its current financial year.

The need for the increases has been made more pressing because of the additional costs incurred since the last increase, including a threshold pay agreement.

Technically the NCB is able to increase prices without reference to the Government under the terms of its membership of the European Coal and Steel Community, but in practice, and in view of its need to secure state funding, this is rarely the case.

£47m Rapier order for BAC from Oman

By Arthur Reed, Farnborough, Sept 4

A £47m order for the Rapier anti-aircraft missile has been won by the British Aircraft Corporation from Oman, the corporation announced at the Farnborough air show yesterday.

It was also disclosed that BAC and Short Bros & Harland, of Belfast, are in the running for a £10m order from the United States.

BAC is offering the Rapier to the American army and navy in competition with similar systems from other countries. Short Bros is putting its remotely piloted vehicle, Skyspy, in for a second competition being run by the American army.

The American army is looking for a vehicle which can survey and photograph battle-field targets and which can also be used for direct artillery fire.

Skyspy is on show at the Short's stand at Farnborough, measuring three-feet across, and looking rather like a large-scale domestic ventilation fan. Controlled by radio from the ground, the prototype is due to make its maiden flight by the end of the year.

Short announced two fresh orders yesterday for its new 30-seater airliner, the SD 3-30. Costing £530,000 each, the aircraft have been bought by a Canadian local airline based near Calgary, Time Air.

The sale to Oman brought export orders for BAC for the Rapier missile to total of £176m. BAC said it had also sold more Rapiers to an African country, which it refused to name, but which is understood to be Zambia.

NCB still planning increase in price to industry next month

By Peter Hill

The National Coal Board is still planning to raise industrial coal prices from the beginning of next month. This would yield more than £100m of additional revenue.

Although speculation continues that the NCB may be prevented from increasing prices in view of the expected general election early in October, it is understood that the board has so far received no official request from the Government to delay the increase.

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£4m fund for films wanted

By Our Financial Staff

The National Film Finance Corporation, whose annual report yesterday reported a loss for the tenth consecutive year, wants a new government fund to help to finance British films.

The report gives a warning that the subsidy for production purposes is essential if talent developed in television and elsewhere is to be given the opportunity it deserved.

A fund of around £4m is envisaged by the NFFC whose funding was cut back by the government two years ago. Last year's loss was £457,244, but encouraging new productions were reported in the pipeline.

Another reprieve sought, page 19

Signor Sindona sells bank

Milan, Sept 4. — Signor Michele Sindona, Italian financier, has sold the last Italian bank he controlled through his holding company Finambrò, Stock Exchange sources said.

Banca Generale di Credito had deposits totalling 75,000m lire (about £50m) when Signor Sindona sold it to an Italian group headed by Signor Mario Genghini, Rome building contractor, the sources said.

The Genghini group has been active recently. A few months ago it acquired a majority interest in Tilane, a textile firm based in Desio, near Milan. — AP-Dow Jones.

British Air Ferries to sell three of its fleet of eight because of fall in revenue

By Maurice Corina

British Air Ferries, the independent airline owned by Transmeriden Air Cargo, is to cut back its operations because of a fall in passenger revenue and the general state of the travel industry.

Mr Michael Keegan, the chairman, said yesterday it was no use pretending to his staff that their industry was not going through a difficult period. The correct policy had to be a reduction in operations.

He said the airline, which operates from Southend and Stansted airports, would be disposing of three of its fleet of eight aircraft, with staff cut by about 90.

Some 40 voluntary resignations had been obtained, and another 20 permanent staff would lose their jobs. A further 30 people employed on a temporary basis were also going.

Leyland strikers go back

By Edward Townsend

Workers at British Leyland's Birmingham transmission plant, whose strike has lasted 18 weeks, returned to work last night.

The 2,000 strikers agreed to resume work after the company offered them a lump sum payment of £160,000 BLMC hourly paid workers instead of threshold payments to return to union assurances of better industrial relations. The company has estimated that a full threshold payment would cost £45m a year.

The company's lump sum offer would bring a swift end to the month-long strike by 450 clerical staff at the commercial vehicle factory at Bathgate, West Lothian, which has made 4,500 production men idle. Shop stewards yesterday travelled to Brighton to discuss the issue with national officials attending the TUC conference.

British Leyland said that further negotiations could now take place. Full resumption of work at the Oxford and Birmingham assembly plants is expected today.

On other pages

How the markets moved

The Times index: 82.87 -1.67
FT index: 210.2 -5.0

Rises

Falls

THE POUND

Bank buys Bank sells

Cement-Roadstone Interim Statement for the 28 weeks ended 10th July 1974

28 weeks ended 10th July, 1974 28 weeks ended 11th July, 1973 Year 1973

Sales to External Customers £40,658,000 £24,935,000 £48,538,000

Profit before Taxation £4,416,000 £3,853,000 £7,372,000

Earnings per Share 3.85p 3.35p 6.57p

Dividends (Gross) 9% 8% 17.33%

(1973 adjusted for the recent 1 for 2 scrip issue)

The substantial increase in sales revenue of 63%, but reduction in trading margins, are mainly due to cost inflation, particularly in relation to energy surcharges and to the inclusion of Van Neebros results for the first time. Cement tonnages were in line with the same period last year, which was exceptionally buoyant. The volume of sales of other products was satisfactory and we are helped by our useful spread of products and markets.

Despite the impact of the cost of oil on us, we achieved a 14.6% increase in pre-tax profits.

Our announced programme for the very large expansion of the Platin Cement Complex is well under way. We are making satisfactory progress in financing this, the biggest expansion project yet undertaken by any public company in Ireland.

We see a basic strength continuing in the demand for our total products.

We have reasonable confidence that we will achieve satisfactory results for the year.

De Beers Consolidated Mines 18
De Beers Industrial Corporation 21
Phoenix Assurance Company 18
Sun Alliance & London 19
Company Notice:
De Beers Consolidated Mines 22
De Beers Industrial Corporation 21

Payments surplus for Italy lightens gloom

Rome, Sept. 4.—The gloom cast here by the economic crisis was lightened a little today by the announcement that Italy registered a balance of payments surplus in July.

The surplus was 248,000 lire (515m), compared with a deficit of 336,000 lire in June, according to unofficial figures from the Bank of Italy.

Bank officials stressed that this improvement, which started to develop as far back as April, took place before Italy had the advantage of any international loans.

Economic observers said the summer influx of foreign tourists, although fewer than last year, had doubtless contributed to the surplus. Signor Guido Carli, the governor of the Bank of Italy, said in a magazine interview last week that a slightly smaller surplus was expected in August.

However, the overall balance of payments deficit is running at 2,690,000 lire for the first seven months.

Sale to Russia of Italy will sell the Soviet Union 30,000 lire (53m) worth of wool-spinning machinery under an agreement signed in Rome.

The agreement with the Soviet Technopromimport calls for companies belonging to the EGAM (Ente Autonomo di Gestione per le Aziende Minerarie Metallurgiche) to deliver two entire wool-spinning plants of 50,000 spindles each and 212 spinning machines for the Kalinin wool textile factory at Moscow.

American group switches to gas carriers

Indications of the effects of the uncertainty in shipping markets caused by the actions of members of the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries was underlined yesterday.

The Overseas Shipbuilding Group Inc., based in New York, announced the conversion of orders for two 80,000-ton deadweight oil tankers with a Japanese shipbuilder to an order for a liquefied petroleum gas (LPG) carrier.

OSG, a major bulk shipping organization, said that instead of the two oil tankers it was now to take delivery of a 73,000 cubic metre capacity LPG ship, scheduled for delivery in the first half of 1977.

It is to be built by the Japanese company, Hitachi Shipbuilding and Engineering.

Mr Onassis seeks fuel price cut for airline

Athens, Sept. 4.—Mr Aristotele Onassis, the Greek shipowner, is negotiating with the Greek Government for reduced fuel prices to enable the Greek national airline, Olympic Airways, to continue operations, a spokesman for Mr Onassis said.

Sharp fall in West German orders and July output stays sluggish

Bonn, Sept. 4.—The West German Economics Ministry said today that the inflow of new orders and actual industrial production continued to develop sluggishly in July.

In its monthly review, the ministry said the inflow of new orders fell by 16 per cent between June and July compared with an average drop of 9 per cent over the previous five years, the figures being weighted average to take into account the differing number of working days in a month. Domestic and export orders were roughly equally affected.

The level of orders in hand fell slightly as the inflow of orders was about 1 per cent below industrial turnover. Taking a longer view, the ministry said the comparison of the combined order inflow for April and May with that for June and July shows a somewhat more favourable development than normal for this time of year. After seasonal adjust-

ment orders in this period rose by 1 per cent, which after taking inflation into account represents a real drop of 2 per cent. Compared with a year earlier, the inflow of orders in July showed a gain of 13 per cent in nominal terms and a drop of almost 2 per cent after adjustment for rising prices.

The new index, with the base year adjusted to 1970 from 1962, stood at 130.8 in July. Prices rose: Prices of industrial products rose 1.2 per cent in July compared with June and 13.9 per cent compared with July last year, reckoned on a new index basis. The ministry said industrial production—measured on a working-day basis—fell 17 per cent between June and July against an average fall of 14 per cent for the previous years. Revenues down: The Federal Bank in Frankfurt said that West Germany's net monetary reserves fell DM500m (about £81m) to DM89,200m in the week ended August 31 due to further Federal Bank currency sales and mark purchases by other central banks. Gross reserves fell DM663m to DM92,446m and foreign money

Franklin restructuring decisions held up by delay in second-quarter audits

From Frank Vogl Washington, Sept. 4

Ernst and Ernst, auditors for the Franklin New York Corporation and the Franklin National Bank, have still not completed the second-quarter audits of these companies and no major decisions on restructuring them is likely before they have been published, according to a high-level government source.

The second-quarter audits are usually completed by the end of July, but Franklin's major losses in the foreign exchange area, in particular, have seriously complicated the task of the auditors.

A spokesman for the Franklin National Bank said today:

"We have been told very tentatively that the audit might be ready by the end of this month."

From figures which Franklin itself has published the bank's losses in the first half of this year exceeded \$88m (about £38m). But some government officials who have been investigating Franklin in recent weeks believe the losses may be even higher.

The meeting yesterday, which brought together more than 20 senior officials from the Securities and Exchange Commission, the Federal Reserve System, the Federal Deposit Insurance Corporation and the Office of the Comptroller of the Currency, was largely devoted to pooling all information obtained

on the state of the Franklin National Bank.

Apart from the audit there are also serious legal problems which could well delay any restructuring plan. The Securities and Exchange Commission has still not decided whether to take any legal action against the directors of the Franklin New York Corporation for alleged public misrepresentation of the bank's financial position.

The Department of Justice has still not decided whether or not criminal indictments will be made against some directors and officers of the bank and its parent company on possible fraud charges. A grand jury in New York is looking into this possibility.

Quick decision on Herstatt assets unlikely

Cologne, Sept. 4.—It could take two to three years before the position of the United States assets of the closed I. D. Herstatt Bank has been clarified, Herr Walter Reiss, the provisional receiver, said.

In a letter to Herstatt creditors, Herr Reiss recalled that the roughly DM410m, (£66m) of Herstatt assets in the United States have been attached by certain creditors while the First National City Bank and two other banks have petitioned for special bankruptcy proceedings under United States law so that the assets can be shared out equitably.

Herr Reiss said it must be assumed that the creditors who had attached the assets would oppose the petition for bankruptcy. Whether they would succeed was difficult to say.

Norway and Russia discuss oil exploration in the Arctic

From Roger Vielvoye Stavanger, Sept. 4

Norway and the Soviet Union are to begin talks next month on dividing the offshore waters north of Norway for oil exploration.

The Arctic waters north of the 70th parallel are an extension of the southern Norwegian continental shelf where large quantities of oil have been found.

No drilling in these areas can take place until the boundary line has been settled. Negotiations will be complicated because of the position of the Russian Novaya Islands to the north of the Soviet mainland. The Russian solution to the problem would give them about 10 per cent more of the northern offshore waters than the Norwegian proposals.

Some of the most hopeful oil prospects in the Arctic area are in the shallow offshore waters close to Spitzbergen, over 800 miles north of the northern tip of Norway.

Norway has sovereignty over the islands, but economic activity is governed by an international treaty to which 65 countries are signatories.

The Norwegians contend that the international agreement covers only the onshore islands, and so far none of the other signatories has disputed the claim. The Norwegian Government is also hoping to open up the more southerly waters to the north of the 62nd parallel for drilling late in 1975.

It is thought that drilling will be in the hands of Statoil, the Norwegian State Oil Company, who will use the services of the international oil companies.

Companies urged to track down trouble spots

Unions and managements in multi-plant companies were today urged to carry out a detailed review of industrial relations in a bid to discover areas of potential conflict.

The recommendation comes from the Commission on Industrial Relations in a report to Mr Michael Foot, Secretary of State for Employment, in pointers to both sides of industry. The Commission urges that unions should be involved at the formative stage in matters, such as mergers or takeovers which affect more than plant.

An effective, influential industrial relations and personnel function is of prime importance in all multi-plant companies, says the report. It asks companies to make arrangements similar to the agreed between Bonn and Rome last weekend, according to Community monetary sources in Brussels.

The commission lists questions for consideration: These include: "If the industrial relations system is largely centralized, has full account been taken of problems that can arise at local level?"

To what extent are plant (and perhaps divisional) managers making decisions without fully understanding likely implications for the rest of the group?"

"The development and maintenance of effective industrial relations in multi-plant companies are as much a challenge for unions as management," says the report.

Unions which bargained at plant level should consider providing for inter-plant contracts between their representatives and representatives of other unions involved.

"Existing informal arrangements at plant level do not appear to be adequate in effectively representing the interests of their members."

"CIR Report No 85 Industrial Relations in Multi-Plant Undertakings HMSO 1974 55p.

Strikers reduced US car output during August

Detroit, Sept. 4.—United States car makers built 450,578 vehicles in domestic plants in August. This was down about 1 per cent from the 452,770 produced in the same month a year ago and almost 11 per cent lower than the 504,000 units planned for the month.

Strikes at key car suppliers and labour troubles at assembly plants cut the production for the month. Stoppages early in August at A. O. Smith Corporation and Briggs and Stratton Corporation, both Milwaukee suppliers of essential car parts, forced production cutbacks at both General Motors Corporation and Chrysler Corporation.

The No 1 and No 3 car makers announced, however, that about 25,000 workers, who had been idle because of the A. O. Smith strike went back to work yesterday, or were being recalled to resume work within a few weeks.

General Motors said about 9,000 workers at four domestic plants and one Canadian truck plant were tentatively due to begin returning to work on Friday, and with all plants in production by September 16.

A GM spokesman said, however, about 4,100 workers at four Chevrolet division plants were still on indefinite lay-off. —AP-Dow Jones.

France to seek foreign exchange coordination

Paris, Sept. 4.—France will shortly propose to its European partners ways to improve their coordination in the foreign exchange sphere, finance minister M. Cressat-Fourcade said in an interview with the financial paper *Le Nouveau Journal*.

He ruled out any return of the franc to the joint European float in the immediate future since, he said, "the essential conditions for the effective operation of a system of concerted floating do not exist at present."

A joint stance by the nine European Community countries on international monetary problems is a basic preliminary, he added.

The minister also attributed the improvement in the franc's relationship against the Deutsche mark to around 1.80 francs from the two franc level of last May, as one of the first results of the government's economic policy. —Reuter.

\$7.5m orders for Tate & Lyle

By Edward Townsend Tate and Lyle has won export contracts worth more than £7.5m, including one to build what it says is the first new sugar factory in Indonesia for more than 20 years.

The orders have been placed with the company's engineering subsidiaries A. and W. Smith and Mirreles Watson by PT Radjawali Musantara.

The Indonesian project is valued at £6.5m, and the plant will have a cane crushing capacity of 3,000 tons a day. It is due to come into operation in two years' time.

A recent survey, financed by the World Bank, of the country's sugar industry recommended the establishment of six new growing sites which, if developed, could increase Indonesia's sugar output by 50 per cent.

The second contract, worth £1.1m, is for the supply of milling plant for Usina Santa Theresa, of Recife, Brazil.

LETTERS TO THE EDITOR

Concrete beams: meaningless core drills

From Mr P. R. Phillips

Sir, I was very interested to read the letter from Messrs Double and Hellawell (August 29) regarding the almost meaningless nature of random drillings taken from high-alumina concrete beams.

As a company marketing a low frequency ultrasonic instrument which can be used to test for the onset of degradation in these beams, we are constantly surprised that local councils persist in undertaking the costly process of removing cores from the beams.

As your correspondents rightly point out, the integrity of a beam will vary over its complete length and cores will only record what is happening at specific points giving little or no indication of what is happening in adjoining areas.

It must be borne in mind that such checks should be repeated at about three monthly intervals in order to locate the onset of degradation.

Surely it is time the Department of Environment followed up its original suggestion that ultrasonic tests were "likely to indicate the presence of seriously weakened concrete" with some advice to local authorities regarding the establishment of constant monitoring regimes in order to ensure the earliest detection of degradation.

Yours sincerely, P. R. PHILLIPS, Director, Inspection Instruments (NDT) Ltd, 32 Duncan Terrace, London N1.

From Mr R. F. Stevens

Sir, Last Thursday's Times carried a letter from two members of the Department of Metallurgy of the University of Oxford about some difficulties they have been experiencing in analysing high alumina cement concrete.

As the advice on testing originated from the Building Research Establishment, perhaps I might be permitted to reply.

There is currently a national

problem regarding the assessment of buildings containing concrete made with high alumina cement, and suggestions for testing such concrete were given to local authorities.

These suggestions included a form of chemical analysis called "differential thermal analysis" (DTA) which may be used to assess the degree of conversion of high alumina cement. Because of the formation of a hard surface layer on high alumina cement concrete, it is necessary for the sample to be obtained from inside the concrete, for which boring with a small diameter drill is recommended.

The suggested tests were developed and checked on many concrete beams and comparisons were made between samples obtained by drilling and those obtained by chip-ping. The difference between the two methods of sampling was small, and the advice given makes allowance both for the presence of aggregate and the possible temperature rise during drilling.

The testing methods suggested have now been used by about 40 testing laboratories to examine many thousands of samples of high alumina cement concrete.

We believe that the methods provide valuable guidance as to the condition of the concrete, and the Building Research Establishment will be pleased to give help if any testing laboratory is experiencing difficulties.

R. F. STEVENS, Head of Structural Properties Division, Building Research Establishment, Carston, Watford.

From Mr J. Kay and Mr T. Robson

Sir, We have read with interest the letter from Mr D. D. Double and Mr A. Hellawell published in your paper yesterday (August 29). The problems associated with one method of testing are discussed and fears expressed that large sums of ratepayers' money are at stake.

We believe the great majority of prestressed beams were correctly made with low water/cement ratio and that the local authorities should be relieved of much of their anxiety by the availability of a simple and truthful test.

Yours, J. T. KAY, J. D. ROBSON, 2 Park Street, Windsor, Berkshire.

May we add that the method discussed, "differential thermal analysis", even if it was possible to satisfy the authors' misgivings at best measures the degree of "conversion".

This we cannot stress too strongly is in itself a totally imperfect measure of concrete quality: 100 per cent conversion of high water/cement ratio concrete will produce very poor concrete; 100 per cent conversion of low water/cement ratio concrete (as specified in the codes of practice) will produce concrete dense and strong for its designed loading.

Degree of conversion alone, therefore, is highly misleading. If testing of existing structures is restricted to this measurement, remedial work will be indicated, with heavy costs and inconveniences incurred in cases quite unnecessarily, where the concrete was made with a low water/cement ratio and thus be of high quality—whatever the degree of conversion.

We believe there is a simple, rapid, and effective method to determine the serviceability of structures in a very conservative way—to produce immediate full conversion of the concrete (eg. by immersion of a sample in boiling water) and then measure its porosity or strength, if the sample is suitable.

If the strength is low, or the porosity unduly high, remedial action may be indicated. If the results are satisfactory according to prediction for low water/cement ratio, then the structure is safe now and in the future.

We believe the great majority of prestressed beams were correctly made with low water/cement ratio and that the local authorities should be relieved of much of their anxiety by the availability of a simple and truthful test.

Yours, J. T. KAY, J. D. ROBSON, 2 Park Street, Windsor, Berkshire.

Elephantine Aims?

From Mr Frank Selkirk

Sir, Surely one of the "Aims of Industry" should be to speak the truth about its own elephants?

To mention (as it did in a full page advertisement in last Friday's paper) "Britain's big and efficient industries" is hardly the truth. My own experience after working for one of these giants for nine years would scarcely allow me to describe such industries as "efficient".

If they are efficient, why is their productivity so low—and has been so low for many years?

Have Aims of Industry never heard of the dis-economy of size?

Yours faithfully, FRANK D. L. SELKIRK, Holloway Cottage, Cheltenham, Wiltshire, August 19.

INTERIM STATEMENT

DE BEERS CONSOLIDATED MINES LIMITED

(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

INTERIM REPORT TO MEMBERS

for the half-year ended 30th June, 1974

The following are the unaudited results of the company and its controlled subsidiaries for the half-year ended 30th June, 1974, together with the comparative figures for the half-year ended 30th June, 1973, and for the year ended 31st December, 1973:—

	Half-year ended 30.6.74 R000's	Half-year ended 30.6.73 R000's	Year ended 31.12.73 R000's
Diamond account	166 875	169 764	329 577
Interest and dividends	42 108	30 275	71 266
Royalties	4 034	4 513	9 029
Sundry revenue	559	892	1 434
Surplus on realisation of investments	48	1 877	227
Surplus on realisation of fixed assets	144	7	141
	213 768	207 328	411 684
DEDUCT:			
Prospecting and research	7 568	4 425	9 856
General charges	4 832	4 135	9 467
Interest payable	1 044	909	1 992
	13 444	9 469	21 315
GROUP PROFIT BEFORE TAX	200 324	197 859	390 369
DEDUCT:			
Government's share of profit under mining leases	7 622	8 549	13 861
Provision for tax	65 660	70 592	126 757
	73 282	79 141	140 618
GROUP PROFIT AFTER TAX	127 042	118 718	249 751
DEDUCT:			
Outside interests in subsidiary companies	6 209	6 745	12 206
Group profit after tax attributable to De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited	120 833	111 973	237 545
Preference dividend of R1 per share declared 21st May 1974	795	795	
Cost of interim dividend of 8 cents per share (1973: 7.5 cents)	28 550	26 765	

NOTES

1. It should not be assumed that the results for the half-year ended 30th June will be repeated in the half-year ending 31st December, since income does not necessarily accrue evenly throughout the year.

2. It is the company's policy to consolidate the results of all companies in which it holds, directly and indirectly, more than 50 per cent of the issued equity capital.

DIAMOND MARKET

The diamond market, affected largely by current high interest rates, is quieter, particularly in regard to some of the larger, more expensive stones.

However, demand for small diamonds is strong and sales of these stones are at a high level.

INTERIM DIVIDEND

An interim dividend of 8 cents per deferred share in respect of the year ending 31st December, 1974, has today been declared payable to shareholders registered in the books of the company at the close of business on 27th September, 1974, and to persons presenting coupon number 53 detached from share warrants to bearer.

Full details, including currency, relating to the payment of this dividend will be published in the press on 5th September, 1974.

4th September, 1974

Head Office:

35 Stockdale Street,

Kimberley, South Africa.

London Secretaries:

Anglo American Corporation of South Africa

Limited,

40 Holborn Viaduct, London EC1P 1AJ.

Copies of this report will be posted to registered shareholders.

For and on behalf of the Board
H. F. OPPENHEIMER, Chairman
A. WILSON

Transfer Secretaries:
Consolidated Share Registrars Limited,
62 Marshall Street, Johannesburg, 2001
(P.O. Box 61051, Marshalltown, 2107).

Charter Consolidated Limited,
Kent House, Station Road, Ashford,
Kent, TN23 1QB.

INTERIM STATEMENT

PHOENIX ASSURANCE COMPANY LIMITED

Interim Statement

DIVIDEND

The directors have declared an interim dividend of 3.702p per share payable to members on the register at the close of business on 29th November 1974. If the tax credit available to eligible shareholders of 1.8233p per share is added, this is equivalent to 5.5253p per share compared with 5p per share for 1973. The cost is £1,515,000 (£1,407,000) and with the ACP payment of £746,000 (£603,000) represents an increase of 12 1/2 per cent on the corresponding total at the interim stage in 1973. The date of payment will be 2nd January 1975.

ESTIMATED RESULTS TO 30th JUNE 1974

The following are the estimated and unaudited results of the Phoenix group of companies for the half-year ended 30th June 1974 with corresponding figures for the first six months of 1973 and actual results for the full year 1973. It is again emphasised that interim figures cannot be taken as a reliable guide to results for the full year.

	6 months to 30.6.74 £'000	6 months to 30.6.73 £'000	Year 1973 £'000
Net premiums written: Fire, Accident, Marine and Aviation	88,592	79,187	161,889
Investment income	—	—	12,347
Underwriting profit:	7,316	4,412	12,347
Fire, Accident, Marine and Aviation	—	—	2,448
Long-term	696	625	1,391
	7,656	7,783	16,186
Less expenses not charged to other accounts	266	420	516
Profit before tax	7,390	7,363	15,670
Less tax	2,217	2,091	5,747
	4,973	5,272	9,923
Less minority interests	1,135	687	1,330
Net profit	3,838	4,585	8,593
Earnings per share	8.38p	11.66p	21.00p

Note: Overseas currency transactions have been converted at rates of exchange appropriate to the periods in question. In converting US dollar transactions for the 6 months to 30th June 1974 a rate of \$2.39 has been used compared with a rate of \$2.58 for the 6 months to 30th June 1973 and \$2.32 for the year 1973.

Throughout the half-year a high level of liquidity has been maintained with a satisfactory cash-flow position. This is reflected in the increase of 35% in investment income. Profits before tax and minorities of £7.3m have been earned by comparison with £7.4m for the corresponding period in 1973.

Abnormal weather losses have left their mark on the fire and accident underwriting results. As previously reported the April tornadoes in the United States are expected to result in claims of £800,000 which form the major part of a total loss of £850,000 from that territory. In Australia storm damage in Victoria and New South Wales, added to the earlier flood damage in Queensland, contributed to a loss of £1.1m for the half-year.

Canadian results are still unprofitable. In the United Kingdom and Ireland claims reserves have been increased in the liability classes in anticipation of continuing inflation. In other classes the UK operations remain profitable, though less so than in the previous year. In Europe and other parts of the world the results in general are good.

The combined Marine and Aviation account shows a small

BY THE FINANCIAL EDITOR

More answers from the insurance sector

While the market is hardly going to treat the composites as absurdly cheap until it is considerably more certain that world share prices do not have much further to fall, yesterday's interims from Sun Alliance and Phoenix again confirm that the main problem for the composites is free from one of liquidity. And, if the rise in investment income in the opening six months is anything to go by, this would seem to be even truer of Sun and Phoenix than most of the others. Certainly, the sector as a whole has been reporting substantial increases in investment income in the first half thanks to high interest rates and buoyant cash flow, but the respective increases for Sun and Phoenix were out at no less than 38 and 35 per cent.

Not that a strong upsurge in investment income is anything less than needed this year to keep the composites' profits moving ahead—at least, in a few cases, to keep them within close touch of last year's levels. This is equally true for both Sun and Phoenix, with the former seeing its general underwriting profit of £5.5m to £2.5m and Phoenix moving from an underwriting profit of £1.7m to a loss of £455,000.

In both cases, the main trouble spots have been the new families of Australia, Canada and the United States, with Sun reckoning that the swing in these three areas totalled £4.6m against the group underwriting downturn of £3m. For the United Kingdom, both groups report lower profits, with Phoenix reporting increased provisions to cope with inflationary pressures but with Sun apparently taking a much lesser loss on Fibreboard of £500,000 net in the first half—than had been commonly supposed.

In terms of full year earnings growth Sun looks the more likely to improve its position this year, particularly given the sharp rise in the profits attributable to the Phoenix minority interests. But that is unlikely to have that much impact on the relative status of either share price—Sun at 232p and Phoenix at 121p—given that both are on virtually identical prospects (assuming maximum dividend increases) of just under 10 per cent.

Sun Alliance
Interim: 1974 (1973)
Capitalization £85.7m
Net premiums £147m (£124m)
Pre-tax profits £16.5m (£15.8m)
Dividend gross 11.3p (10p)

Phoenix
Interim: 1974 (1973)
Capitalization £49.5m
Net premiums £88.6m (£76.2m)
Pre-tax profits £7.29m (£7.36m)
Dividend gross 5.52p (5p)

De Beers
Smaller stones
Precisely as usual, the market took 10p of the De Beers share price before the announcement last night of figures which are indeed slightly disappointing. Nevertheless, it could have taken the view that with the increase of 12 per cent in CSO sales in the first six months (in Rand terms) and a 26 per cent rise in sterling terms to £34.5m in the United Kingdom, the diamond account would have shown a reasonable improvement.

In fact, the drop here of £3m to £157m (about £105m) reflected a downturn in demand for larger stones which provide the best margins. Sales from the cutting centres to the retailer have been affected by high interest rates, borne out by a £12m increase to £42m in interest receivable in De Beers itself. Small stone sales are, however, firm thanks in part to De Beers opening up new markets, particularly in the Far East.

The expectation expressed in April that sales would be of the same order as 1973's £33m must now be in doubt. But De Beers does have the facility to play margins by selling its own production where the return is around six times that on bought-in stones.

Decca
Acknowledging the dangers
Decca's profits went into reverse in both the consumer and the capital goods sectors in the second half of 1973/74, and this trend will continue in the first half of this year, at least on the consumer goods side. Decca's acknowledgement of this left both classes of share 2p lower—the ordinary at 139p and the "A" at 135p.

Inflation is playing havoc with margins on the consumer goods side. On a buoyant sales trend that might not be too bad, but between the first and second halves of last year the rate of sales growth collapsed from 33 to just 4 per cent.

Record sales (over a third of group turnover) held up fairly well last year, except in North America, but margins were squeezed hard by the rising cost of pvc after the oil crisis and by labour costs. Price increases averaging 8 per cent were made in June but some of that goes in royalties and the increase itself.

But the veto still holds for the 20 or so acres still used for film production. It was somewhat mournfully that Terry drew attention to the point in his annual report which noted that hopes had not yet been fulfilled of continued prosperity at the slimmed-down Shepperton studios.

"Clearly," the report added, "some rationalization of the major studio situation is overdue."

Terry, obviously having in mind that the United Kingdom has other big studios at Elstree and Pinewood, explained: "It is clear today that we have too much major studio space."

With new ideas currently being explored to inject some



Mr. Harry Oppenheimer, chairman of De Beers Consolidated Mines: diamond sales have been affected by high interest rates.

may increase sales resistance, particularly in the budget albums.

Colour TV, which represents around one fifth of Decca's turnover if the audio side is included, was up in volume as well as value terms last year and appears to be holding up even now, indicating that Decca's share of the market is secure.

Even so, the industry's sales are clearly vulnerable. Orders on the military side, for North Sea survey equipment and for marine systems, is good. Hence the forecast of an increase in profits on the capital goods side in the first half of this year.

An historic p/e ratio of about 31 for both classes of share is arguably discounting some of the things though the multiple is lower for Pye which has less dependence on consumer goods, and at 84 per cent the Decca yield is well below Pye's too.

Final: 1973/74 (1972/73)
Capitalization £25.7m
Sales £136.6m (£116.4m)
Pre-tax profits £15.9m (£15.1m)
Earnings per share 38.5p (45p)
Dividend gross 11.99p (11.56p)

Union Corporation
New battle lines
Union Corporation is up for grabs, but gold is the name of the game at present. The Gold Fields of South Africa offer would be the present terms—an effective 13 shares for every 100 Union Corporation at 367p a share if the preference sweetener is disregarded—raises the gold content from 60 per cent to about 80 per cent of combined assets.

GFS, then, certainly has a head start although UC can say that around 10 per cent of the equity is in friendly hands, chiefly Hambros and UC's associate, UC Investments and Goldfield. The Anglo stake of 10 per cent plus is an unknown factor although Anglo's associate, Charter Consolidated, is interested in dealing profits.

There is still a chance that General Mining, which has placed friends, may put together a joint package with a third party and that is what the UC share price is assuming. One thing is certain, UC shareholders are in for a good run.

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A conservative assumption would be maintained earnings for the year of 66.1c with an upper limit of 70c. Here, with the shares at 207p, the prospective p/e ratio of just under 5 and yield of 7.9 per cent, assuming the dividend total is raised 2c to 28c, does little to help the group to recoup status against other South African-oriented mining shares.

Interim: 1974 (1973)
Capitalization £739m
Diamond a/c £167m (£170m)
Attributable profits £120m (£112m)
Dividend gross 8c (7.5c)

Institutions
Chronicling the fall
Today's *Trade and Industry* summary of insurance company and pension fund investment in 1973 confirms what the stock market already knows all too well. Total net investment by insurance companies rose from over 1 per cent to £1,663m compared with rises of 32 per cent in 1972 and 25 per cent in 1971. Of that total ordinary shares accounted for only 21 per cent against 41 per cent in the previous year.

The pattern is slightly different in the case of pension funds where total net investment rose 36 per cent to £556m, but the story in equities was the same. Net gains, meanwhile, were mortgages and loans, and property; in the case of the pension funds government securities also saw a substantial net investment after disinvestment in 1972.

The July edition of *Financial Statistics* takes the story one step further. The striking feature in the first quarter of 1974, which presumably reflects the aftermath of the oil crisis and troubles in the financial system, shows a sudden leap in the short-term assets of both insurance companies and pension funds.

After net acquisitions of short-term assets amounting to only £3m in the last quarter of 1973, insurance companies show net acquisitions of £200.5m in this category in the first quarter—almost as much as the same figure for the whole of 1973. Pension funds show an even larger quarterly swing. It would not be surprising if the second quarter shows a further increase in short-term liquidity and property must surely be an odds-on bet to join equities in the doldrums when the figures are published shortly.

The government's main problems are a balance of payments deficit likely to reach 25,000m francs (about £2,250m) by the end of the year (it was already 11,700m francs by July) and an inflation rate running over the past six months at an annual equivalent of 16.5 per cent.

The trade unions naturally emphasize the other chief worry—maintaining full employment. President Giscard last week committed himself to maintaining "a high level" of employment.

France's exports were 40 per cent up in July on the year before, running at around 20,000m francs a month; national production is still increasing at an annual rate between 4 and 5 per cent, and the French franc has gained 8 to 9 per cent vis-à-vis those EEC countries which are still maintaining the snake and the dollar in the past two months.

French wage-earners achieved increases in the second quarter of this year which were among the highest since 1968. All these would be signs of a strong economy anywhere.

The government's anti-inflationary package—a severe bank credit squeeze, prompt payment of company and personal taxes, reduced fuel imports, and an export drive—is crucial. As Mr. Chirac has just made clear, the credit squeeze, which began in earnest only from June, is judged the most important element.

The squeeze has started really to bite and characterizes France economically as this autumn. There is a trickle of small and medium-sized firms, above all in sectors like textiles and construction, filing bankruptcy proceedings.

Some 1,000 small firms had by July already disappeared away since the end of last year. France still has an estimated 665,000 small and medium-sized industrial concerns (half employing less than 10 workers each) and 570,000 small businesses, including the shopkeepers.

With a flood of such bankruptcies threatening for the autumn months, M. Leon Giscard, president of the Small and Medium-sized Enterprises Proprietors' Federation, has demanded that M. Jean-Pierre Fourcade, the Economics Minister, should order an immediate let-up on the squeeze.

But M. Fourcade has replied that the small firm department is committed to "study" the case of individual companies in financial difficulties. It has, however, been M. Michel d'Ornano, the Minister of Industry, who has bluntly given warning that "lame ducks"—badly run companies which are fixed by the Common Agricultural Policy in Brussels.

The big labour battalions, organized by the usually highly political trade unions, have stayed quiet and men like M. Georges Seguy, the number one Communist union leader, have even offered to negotiate labour's price for collaborating with the government's anti-inflation programme. That price would, however, be virtually to implement the left's economic programme outlined in last May's presidential election, with hefty tax increases for those sections of the community from which M. Giscard gained most of his support.

Yet another of the organizations and pressure groups within Britain's wretched film industry had its say yesterday about what should be done to help the big screen avoid a final melodramatic fade-out.

The script had an all-too-familiar ring as John Terry, 25 years with the National Film Finance Corporation, talked of a crossroads situation with nobody sure where they were going.

In fact, with the present Government at any rate disposed to look again at policy on the industry and a Department of Trade file beginning to bulge with suggestions from interested parties, the stage is being set for a final shoot-out that will almost certainly involve the television men, both at the BBC and ITV.

Of the several strands in the melancholy story of British filmmaking, leading up to this final scene, perhaps the most ironic is that later this year there will emerge from the National Film School the first graduates who are intended to nourish the home product with fresh ideas and new talent.

Their chances of finding an opening in a film industry look bleak. The precarious home market is turning even sicker as colour television strengthens the lure of fireside entertainment.

It is their likely plight which the NFFC uses as a big argument for government adoption of its new plans. It is right in so far as exploitation of new talent is absolutely critical in the film industry's future.

It was the NFFC which had been acting as the industry's banker of last resort for more than 20 years when it was pushed aside by the Conservatives a couple of years ago with a final film loans facility. Since then it has been operating through a consortium including banks who, with national Westminster putting up a big share, added £750,000 to the kitty.

It meant operating to strict commercial criteria which in turn meant backing films of the *Up Pompeii* calibre. The pursuit of quality and new talent for their own sake had to go out of the window.

Now the NFFC looks to a new Labour government, if it got back in an autumn election, to put up about £4m for a revolving fund whose guiding principle would be quality rather than profit. It would obviously from time to time mean a topping up of the fund by the Government—the last time the NFFC showed an annual profit was back in 1964.

Nor does the return in an autumn election of a Tory administration necessarily make the NFFC unhappy, because there were signs towards the end of the last Conservative Government of a change in attitude. It was Anthony Grant, then Under-Secretary at the Department of Trade and Industry, who offered to consider some form of levy on films shown on television to help make finance of United Kingdom film financing.

That started the ball rolling on the departmental review of policy on the industry. Since then Michael Relf, chairman of the Film Production Association of Great Britain, has been pushing for a £1,000 levy (or 10 per cent of purchase price according to whichever sum was

the greater) on every film shown on television, whether BBC or ITV.

One idea would be for the money to go to a central fund to encourage film production. At the moment such a scheme would yield about £1m in a full year.

Equally some, if not all, of the cash could be used as "end money," the trickiest slice to raise in any film financing package.

End money investors get the last cut at the cake when the profits come in.

If more end money were guaranteed via the levy fund it has been estimated that probably another £3m to £4m of private risk capital would be forthcoming to back film-making.

Although a confrontation between film and television interests is likely over the idea of such a levy, there are signs of movement in both camps from previously entrenched positions. The BBC, for instance, has suggested it puts up pre-production cash in return for preferential television rights on films funded.

France: a robust economy facing a test of its strength

however, bring the French government awkward labour disputes. The plight of Titan-Coder, France's trailer manufacturer, is illustrative of the kind of trouble the winter may hold.

It is the biggest single employer of labour in the Marseilles region and was saved last week from closure only by government intervention. Renault, the state car concern, is now studying ways to avoid the dismantling of Titan.

Titan is a big lame duck which has been caught in the credit squeeze and gone bankrupt despite having received 26m francs in government subsidies in the past and having shed 550 employees earlier this year. The government wants, above all, to avoid starting the autumn with another Lip affair.

As France faces the months ahead and the anti-inflationary programme cuts deeper the underlying issue of whether the robustness, or the weaknesses, of the "new industrial France" built up since the 1960s will be revealed.

SUN ALLIANCE & LONDON
INSURANCE GROUP
INTERIM STATEMENT

DIVIDEND
The Directors have declared an interim dividend of 7.8p per share which will be paid on the 6th January 1975, costing £2,808,200.

With the addition of the tax credit of 3.743p per share this is equivalent to a "gross" dividend of 11.543p.

Last year the equivalent "gross" interim and final dividends were 10p and 10.996p, making a total of 20.996p.

Shareholders are reminded that at present the maximum increase in dividend permitted by the Government is limited to 12½% of the "gross" equivalent dividend paid in respect of 1973.

The Board confidently expects to pay such an increased maximum dividend for the year.

ESTIMATED HALF-YEAR RESULTS

	6 months to 30th June 1974	6 months to 30th June 1973	Year 1973
Fire, Accident and Marine Premium Income	£ 000 147,460	£ 000 123,828	£ 000 261,564
Underwriting Surplus:			
Fire, Accident and Marine	2,461	5,483	6,311
Long-term Insurance Profits	546	546	1,088
Investment Income	13,550	9,800	22,087
Other Income	87	75	171
Less Loan Stock Interest	16,844	15,904	29,657
Profit before Taxation	16,574	15,834	29,516
Less Taxation	7,300	6,800	11,829
Profit after Taxation	9,274	9,234	17,687
Less Minority Interests	197	170	330
Net Profit	9,077	9,064	17,357

FIRE AND ACCIDENT DEPARTMENTS
The first half year has had to bear heavy losses in Australia (£3m, of which the exceptionally disastrous floods account for £1.2m), Canada (£1.5m) and the United States (£1m)—an adverse swing in these three areas of £4.6m compared with the first half of last year. The United Kingdom business has remained profitable in spite of considerable claims resulting from the storms in the early months of the year and several major fire losses, including £0.6m for the Fibreboard disaster.

In such circumstances the underwriting profits, which have been helped by much improved results elsewhere overseas, are encouraging.

MARINE DEPARTMENT
The 1972 Account, which will be closed at the end of this year, will itself be satisfactorily profitable but, as shareholders have already been warned, the results of the 1973 and 1974 Accounts are showing the effects of uneconomic competition and a significant increase in the number of total losses both of ships and aircraft.

INVESTMENT DEPARTMENT
The considerable increase again shown in the investment income largely results from the high degree of liquidity which the Group has, as a deliberate policy, maintained for some years past. Short term interest rates rose sharply during last year but the full benefit of this was not experienced until the second half of the year. Interest rates remain high but it will be appreciated that a correspondingly large increase in investment income should not necessarily be expected in the second half of this year.

LIFE DEPARTMENT
Life and Annuity Business:

	6 months to 30th June 1974	6 months to 30th June 1973	Year 1973
New Sums Assured	£ 000 175,962	£ 000 198,823	£ 000 416,842
New Annuities Per Annum	6,270	3,392	8,697
New Annual Premiums	2,868	3,252	6,882
New Single Premiums	2,987	1,679	6,763

GENERAL
In recent weeks the financial scene has been characterised by rumours and suspicions usually of a totally unfounded nature.

Our Group was a target of some of these rumours, in company, it is fair to say, with most of the other leading Insurance Offices.

General conditions, unfortunately, make it not impossible that rumours of this kind may recur and be given unfounded publicity, however much distress and harm will inevitably be caused to shareholders, staff and policyholders and damage indeed to the City of London and the nation as a whole.

The results announced today refute the rumour-mongers and show that our well balanced and world wide business continues to make very satisfactory progress, despite some exceptionally heavy losses. Our strength is the greater because we have deliberately maintained liquidity to a degree that, in any circumstances other than the present, would be quite excessive. Our solvency margin, although reduced as a result of the fall in the world's stock markets, is well in excess of our own prudent requirements, which, in turn, are above the statutory requirements; and our general position is amongst the strongest in the industry.

4th September 1974.

According to Peter Ditchum, Terrapin's executive responsible for Scottish sales, the oil companies "are only interested in what is going on on the shore."

On a short-term basis, he said, he has seen out of problems and that is where we come in."

Terrapin is at present involved in erecting construction bases—"labour camps" is not a phrase you use in Scotland", Ditchum said in London yesterday at Argyne Point and in the Shetland Islands.

Misfit
Members of the British Poultry Federation are wondering whether the Government is mounting an assault in favour of the common man—or if it has merely lost its handbook of etiquette. Lord Edward Fitz-Roy, chairman of the federation, is the bemused possessor of three official rejections of requests for help to an industry where costs exceed returns.

The first "No" came from Fred Peart, Minister of Agriculture, who addressed Lord Edward as Lord Fitzroy. Five days later it was Norman Buchan, Minister of State for Agriculture, who began "Dear Fitzroy."

Now, the latest refusal comes from Robert Carr, Parliamentary Under-Secretary at the Department of Prices and Consumer Protection, whose letter begins: "Dear Mr. Fitz-Roy."

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FINANCIAL NEWS AND MARKET REPORTS

Whitbread faces opening reverse on the heels of £24m costs' rise

By Ashley Druker

Massive increases in costs, reduction of capital investment, and expectancy on price rises are the crucial factors influencing the fortunes of Whitbread in the forthcoming year. This was the news for shareholders at yesterday's annual meeting from Mr Alex Bennett, chairman and chief executive. On the brighter side, he disclosed that the promised revaluation of group properties had thrown up a surplus over book values of some £120m.

Cost increases faced this year amount to no less than £24m, of which about £10m has already

fallen in the opening six months. Mr Bennett split this into wages and salaries rising over the year by £9m, costs for malt £5m, sugar £500,000, and fuel nearly £2m. As for investment, the group had already "drastically cut back" this year, while in 1975 the only prudent policy would be to reduce this to an amount which could be generated by cash flow.

On the profits outlook, he gave a salutary warning that members must expect a reduction in opening profits. (Last year Whitbread reversed an 18 per cent opening gain into a 12

per cent setback in the second half.)

Further ahead, the year's figures would depend on how trading continued—at present good—but more important on the price increase applied for being granted. On the proviso that the good trading continued, and the price rise came through, profitability should improve in the second half and the group would "hold its own" for the year overall.

On the revaluation—£305m against the book entry of £185m—a rise of 60 per cent—Mr Bennett said this had been "conservative".



Mr Alex Bennett, chairman of Whitbread: Property revaluation produces £120m surplus.

Venesta Int makes a mystery £2.5m loan

By Christopher Wilkins

Despite a heavy increase in its share price, Venesta International, the associate of Mr David Rowland's Williams Hudson Group, had made a £2.5m loan to an undisclosed party.

The loan, which is secured and repayable in instalments by the end of September, 1975, is revealed in the group's accounts, which also show that borrowings (net of the £2.5m loan) rose from £5m to £12m. Shareholders' funds, meanwhile, after excluding £38m of good will, have fallen from £5.9m to £4.3m. This is after including a surplus thrown up by property revaluation of £13m.

Some of the increase in borrowings is accounted for by loans to the group totalling £2.1m from Williams Hudson, which has also agreed to make further sums available.

Mr Lybrand, Venesta's auditors, make it clear in their report that the accounts have been prepared on the basis of the group being a going concern, which assumes the continued support of Williams Hudson. This point was not made clear when the preliminary profit announcement was made last week.

Lord Winterbottom, the chairman, warns shareholders that it would be "unwise" to assume that the results for the present year will reach last year's record level of £3.1m.

Anglo-Ecuadorian soars in first half

By Tony May

A strong recovery has taken the Anglo-Ecuadorian Oilfields up from a low of £91,000 to £793,000—which is more than the £650,000 profit made over the whole of last year.

It has been achieved on turnover up from £8.3m to £10.9m, while at the attributable level a loss of £155,000 has been turned into a profit of £461,000. This is after minorities and unrealized exchange losses on net current assets of £30,000, against £155,000. The group is 51.2 per cent controlled by British Oil.

Mr N. Williams, chairman, describes the results as encouraging, but says that the environment in which the group is operating is constantly changing, and this makes accurate forecasting hard.

The final results will depend on the outcome of the exploration in the Oriente region, where two wells are being drilled this year. If the results are good enough, an extension of the exploration period would be applied for.

Trading results and interest will be "substantially" higher than in 1973. For the half year, a breakdown of taxable profits shows a rise in trading profit from £27,000 to £473,000, while dividend and interest adds £320,000, against £64,000.

Lewston Int diversification begins paying off

The changed face of Lewston International with new profit centres set up by its drive into leisure, offshore oil services, and environmental control fields, and away from property, is emphasised by Mr Alan Findlay, chairman, in his annual report. The new fields were likely to be the fastest-growing activities over the next three years, he added.

Increasing operations outside Britain are reflected in the net assets position—three-quarters of which are in Europe and only one-quarter in this country. The chairman sees a difficult year ahead for construction, but European property development should make a "significant" contribution.

Stock markets

Financial sector again under heavy pressure

The effects on equity market were the Lloyds Bank International losses, and the hammering of a fifth stock market firm, became only too clear yesterday. A fresh round of rumours of trouble in the financial sector hit the market at mid-morning, and share prices quickly slid away on nervous selling—and a total absence of buyers. A firm denial of liquidity rumours from the boardroom of Mercantile Credit—a major HP trader—did little to restore the general confidence. At the end of the session, share prices fell further as Wall Street and the continental markets plunged lower.

Turnover remained relatively light—the day's recorded bargain totalled only 4,967. But the FT index lost 5 points to 210.5, bringing it uncomfortably close to the 15-year low of 198.8.

while The Times index, at 82.87, fell to 16p on nervous selling, but rallied to 18p on the boardroom denial of rumours, thus cutting today's loss to 7p. At

20p, United Dominions Trust were easier, and minor losses were also suffered by Wagon Finance (24p) and Lloyds & Scottish (32p).

The rumours about Mercantile Credit also took toll of shares in

Latest dividends

All dividends in new pence or appropriate currencies			
Company (and par values)	Div ord	Year ago	Pay date
Cement Roadstone (25p) Int	2.25	24	9/10
Corn Diamond Mines (1s) Int	200*	300*	—
De Beers Cons (5s) Int	8.5	7.5*	—
De Beers Inds (R2) Int	22.5*	20*	—
Decca (25p) Fin	9.18	8.55	—
Grippers (10p) Fin	2.50	4.25	—
Greensand (25p) Int	2.24	2	31/12
Phoenix Assurance (25p) Int	5.52	5	2/1
Shurpee & Fisher (25p) Int	1.05	1	12/11
Sun Alliance (1s) Int	11.34	10	6/1
† Adjusted for scrip. * Cents a share.			

Barclays Bank (10p off at 145p) and in Commercial Union (6p off at 87p)—both holders of major stakes in the Mercantile equity. Lloyds Bank remained depressed at 130p, while among the secondary banks, Hambros Bank (120p) and Keyser Ullmann (63p) lost ground.

Losses in leading industrial firms were small, although the more directly United States orientated issues weakened a fresh in late days. ICI (168p) closed 3p off ahead of today's interim statements. BP, also with second quarter figures due today, reversed an earlier firm trend to close 4p off at 276p.

The gilt edged market had a calm session, and did not share the unsettlement of equities. Prices were finally up 2 points lower, with the market still waiting for an indication of interest rate trends.

Faulty plant throws Beeston back to red

Last year's return to profit by Beeston Colliery, a Nottinghamshire coalfield, has been proved short-lived. What was found to be faulty automatic foundry plant hit the group's results in the second half, and this has helped push the company into losses. The company is to claim against the plant's makers.

At half time the board said the order position for both home and overseas markets was stronger than at any time over the past three years and they believed that the steady progress back to profitability could

Diamond Stylus speaks up for shareholder

Barring further crippling legislation or other usages, Mr Ernest Coathup, chairman of Diamond Stylus Co, takes a cheerful outlook for the group. Mr Coathup argues that 'vicious' taxation, far from being deflationary, is inflationary. It also inhibits the proper channelling of profits back into expansion and prevents shareholders obtaining a fair return. Long-term, he goes on, these factors have produced the present deeply depressed stock market. Mr Coathup feels there is a great need for a graduated capital gains tax to speculators and beneficial to the genuine long-term investor.

BRYANSTON-AMAL INDS
Bryanston Finance has acquired further 385,000 Amalgamated Industrial's ordinary, and now holds 9.7%, about 10 per cent, and 2.1m "A" ordinary.

KINGSIDE INV
Taxable revenue is £81,000 (£64,000 net), against £79,500 (£54,000 net). Dividend is 0.52p (0.5p).

Chill through European markets

The gloomy United States forecast on inflation which brought about Tuesday's setback on Wall Street put European hours under a cloud yesterday. Stocks declined over a broad front in response to large selling orders.

In Frankfurt, favourable mid-term reports from several major companies failed to lift the depression with BASF falling by DM2.80, AEG by DM1.50

and Cassella by DM7. Also sharply lower were Siemens (DM40) and Schering (DM7). The fall among banks was led by Deutsche Bank, up to DM6.50 lower.

Losses in Dutch internationals in Amsterdam ranged from 1.60 guilders for Philips to 3.20 guilders for Akzo. In Zurich many stocks touched new "lows" for the year. Leading banks were particularly hit as

were Elektro-Watt, Interfood, Juvena and Villars.

Large selling orders in Paris brought a setback for Thomson Brandi, Banque Indochine, BSN, Roussel and Idoquine.

In Milan leading industrials were depressed with only Saia Viscosa marginally higher, and Fiat unchanged. All foreign stocks were lower in Brussels including golds, in line with the London fixing.—Reuter.

Gill & Duffus buys £1.5m London site

Gill & Duffus Group, the international commodity merchants and brokers, have purchased for £1,525,000 cash the freehold site at 201-211 Borough High Street, London, SE1. The company intends to erect on the site an office block for its own occupation. The building is expected to be ready for occupation in the latter part of 1976.

Export stimulus gives Kleeman strong push

All the signs at mid-way are that Kleeman Industrial Holdings, with a large boost from exports, will top £1m for the first time in 1974.

Some 32 per cent ahead at mid-way (after the preceding year's 42 per cent advance), full-time profits before tax for the year to end-April were 33 per cent better at £562,000, on turnover climbing 30 per cent up 41 per cent on the preceding year to £3.16m. Earnings per share work out at 11.3p compared with 11.1p.

The full-time payment in turn is raised from 4.2p to 4.4p, with a cash or share option on the final of 2.56p.

The interim dividend is to be 2.24p, against 2p, while a final of 3.47p, making a promised total up from 5.31p to 5.66p.

engineering group, kept up its smart opening pace to finish with easily record profits in spite of a tough economic and materials situation.

Some 32 per cent ahead at mid-way (after the preceding year's 42 per cent advance), full-time profits before tax for the year to end-April were 33 per cent better at £562,000, on turnover climbing 30 per cent up 41 per cent on the preceding year to £3.16m. Earnings per share work out at 11.3p compared with 11.1p.

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Business appointments

Unilever financial deputy

Mr R. W. Archer has been made deputy financial director of Unilever Ltd and will also assume the responsibilities of treasurer, as from November 15.

Mr S. M. Griffiths joins the board of Philip Harris (Holdings).

Mr H. D. Downing has been appointed to the board of Glacier Metal as commercial director.

Mr M. R. Meakin has become a director of Antony Gibbs.

Mr E. Whitehead has joined the board of Cole Plastics.

specifically, of the Council of Engineering Institutions.

Mr Kenneth Harris has been made managing director of Mysore Ireland. He remains chief executive of Scangline International.

Mr Richard Brett, executive director of the Institution of Works Managers, has been appointed director of administration by the Distributive Industry Training Board.

Mr Brian Cope has become director of Precision Electronic Terminations (EMI).

Mr N. I. E. Ostrom has been made chairman of Stewart Naim Group.

BARLOW RAND LIMITED
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

UNION CORPORATION LIMITED
(Incorporated in the Republic of South Africa)

JOINT ANNOUNCEMENT

The Boards of Barlow Rand Limited and Union Corporation Limited announce that, in view of developments since agreement in principle to integrate the two companies had been reached, it will not now be possible to proceed with the proposed merger.

By order of the Boards

Barlow Rand Limited Union Corporation Limited
R. A. LAMBERT L. R. STRIDE
Secretary Secretary

4th September, 1974

LONGTON
TRANSPORT (HOLDINGS) LIMITED

44% increase in profit

Extracts from the Statement of Mr. Edward G. Dale, Chairman—

Profit before taxation amounted to £897,993 (including first full year for Bulk Storage). This is considered to be an excellent result in view of the national economic and industrial problems. Shareholders are being given the option to take shares in lieu of the cash dividend.

Demand for bulk warehousing improved considerably but road haulage continued to fluctuate during the year.

Record sales and profits achieved in the Steel Stockholding Division and further expansion of processing facilities is under way.

Results of the Vehicle Distribution Division are satisfactory in view of the restricted supply position.

Company is well placed to take advantage of any opportunities in the coming year.

	Year ended 31.7.74	Year ended 31.7.73
Gross turnover	£14,489,894	£11,188,558
Profit before taxation	£897,993	£254,374
Taxation	£416,813	£222,842
Profit after taxation	£481,180	£31,532
Dividends (gross equivalent)	£15.75*	15*

*Maximum permitted

Copies of the Report and Accounts may be obtained from the Secretary, Head Office, King Street, Longton, Stoke-on-Trent ST3 1EU.

London Sumatra Plantations Limited
(Incorporated in England)

Sumatra and Borneo, Indonesia

Profit and Dividend

	Year ended 31.12.73	Year ended 31.12.72
Profit after tax	£394,762	£238,327
Dividend (maximum permissible)	103414	1029
Dividend (actual)	£163,056	£163,837

Crops Harvested 1973/74

Rubber	18,474	17,897
Oil palm	21,643	17,470
Coconut	269	740
Tea	862	437

Planted Acreage (subject to survey)

Rubber, Oil Palm, Coconut, Tea, Cocoa—95,202 acres

Annual General Meeting—27th September 1974.

Wall Street

New York, Sept 4.—Wall Street stock prices deteriorated further today with the market falling twice

Sept 4	Sept 3	Sept 4	Sept 3	Sept 4	Sept 3			
Allied Chem.	75 3/4	75 3/4	Gen Foods	17 1/4	17 1/4	Santa Fe Ind	25 1/2	25 1/2
Allied Superm.	24 1/4	24 1/4	Gen Mills	36 3/4	36 3/4	Schering Plough	48 3/4	48 3/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Cel.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
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Am. Chem.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Col.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4	28 1/4
Am. Can.	30 1/4	30 1/4	Kimberly	38 1/4	38 1/4	Sealed Air	28 1/4</	

MARKET REPORTS

Foreign Exchange

The dollar recovered on foreign exchanges yesterday, causing most European currencies to retreat beyond overnight levels. This followed an early weakness. A rise in Eurodollar rates as the Japanese attempted to alleviate the Tokyo dollar shortage, and a recovery in New York short term interest rates bolstered the dollar. It was possible, dealers said, that demand from companies for oil royalty payments to the Arab producers was helping support both the dollar and sterling.

The pound closed 35 points up against the dollar at \$2.3140, after a peak of \$2.3180. United Kingdom Government figures showing a substantial increase in returns from investment abroad were encouraging, dealers said, and could help to narrow the trade gap if their growth continues.

The "effective" sterling rate improved to 18.0 per cent, against the world's major currencies from Tuesday night's 18.1 per cent.

German marks were strengthened initially by the imminent lifting of the 20 per cent deposit requirement on borrowings from abroad, and Germany's bank surveillance proposals. However, the dollar bounced back, pushing the mark from its peak of 2.640 back to its overnight of 2.6515, where it closed.

Swiss francs ended at 3.0122 to the dollar after 3.0100, and French francs at 4.8000 after 4.8025.

Japanese yen improved marginally to 302.60 to the dollar from a previous London close of 302.70. Japanese Government figures showing a substantial increase in returns from investment abroad were encouraging, dealers said, and could help to narrow the trade gap if their growth continues.

Spot Position of Sterling

Market	Rate	Market	Rate
New York	2.3140	London	2.3140
Frankfurt	2.3140	Paris	2.3140
Amsterdam	2.3140	Brussels	2.3140
Geneva	2.3140	Zurich	2.3140
Stockholm	2.3140	Copenhagen	2.3140
Oslo	2.3140	Stockholm	2.3140
Oslo	2.3140	Stockholm	2.3140
Oslo	2.3140	Stockholm	2.3140
Oslo	2.3140	Stockholm	2.3140

Forward Levels

Month	Rate	Month	Rate
1 month	2.3140	12 months	2.3140
3 months	2.3140	15 months	2.3140
6 months	2.3140	18 months	2.3140
9 months	2.3140	21 months	2.3140
12 months	2.3140	24 months	2.3140

Comfortable day for the discount houses

The London discount market had a very comfortable day indeed yesterday. Money was on offer from the start of business and rates quickly fell back from the opening level, in the region of 10 per cent. By noon, a range of 9 to 11 was quoted for day-to-day money, but by the early afternoon the rate was more like 10. The close was in a range of 1 to 3 per cent.

The Times Share Indices

Index	Value	Index	Value
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00

Money Market Rates

Rate	Value	Rate	Value
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00

Sir Val Duncan at metal forum

Sir Val Duncan, chairman and chief executive of the Rio Tinto Zinc Corporation will be the chief speaker at this year's American Metal Market forum at the Café Royal, London, on October 9.

Registration forms can be obtained from Brian Reidy & Associates, 18-20 St Andrew Street, London EC4A 3AE.

US silver stocks down 4.5m ounces

United States domestic mine production of silver totalled 2,980,000 Troy ounces in June, compared with 3,130,000 ounces in May, the Bureau of Mines reports. Production in the first half of the 1974 was 17,590,000 Troy ounces.

June imports exceeded exports by 7.4m ounces. Imports totalled 11.4m ounces, 8 per cent higher than in May, while exports were 3.9m ounces, a jump of 48 per cent.

Stocks of silver at the end of June were: Comex, 74.3m ounces compared with 75.4m a month earlier; Chicago Board of Trade, 20.3m ounces (23,750,000) - Reuter.

Copra floor price abolished

The Philippines has abolished its fixed export and domestic floor prices for copra and other coconut products, the United Coconut Association of the Philippines (UCAP) said.

UCAP sources said coconut industry leaders told President Ferdinand Marcos that with the resumption of normal trading, coconut exports in 1974 could reach \$700m (about \$300m) or nearly double last year's \$372.8m.

The President approved a flexible export pricing scheme, effective immediately, based on world market price developments, they said.

On August 2, the Philippine Government lifted the ban on the export of copra and other coconut products and set the floor price for copra at 280 pesos per 100 kilos from designated ports, the sources noted.

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Recent Issues

Company	Price	Company	Price
New York	2.3140	London	2.3140
Frankfurt	2.3140	Paris	2.3140
Amsterdam	2.3140	Brussels	2.3140
Geneva	2.3140	Zurich	2.3140
Stockholm	2.3140	Copenhagen	2.3140

Bank Base Rates

Bank	Rate	Bank	Rate
Barclays Bank	12%	Barclays Bank	12%
BNFAC	13%	BNFAC	13%
Hill Samuel	12.12%	Hill Samuel	12.12%
C. Hoare & Co	12%	C. Hoare & Co	12%
Lloyds Bank	12%	Lloyds Bank	12%
Midland Bank	12%	Midland Bank	12%
Nat Westminster	12%	Nat Westminster	12%
Shenley Trust	12%	Shenley Trust	12%
20th Cent Bank	12%	20th Cent Bank	12%
C. T. Whyte	13%	C. T. Whyte	13%
Williams & Glyn's	12%	Williams & Glyn's	12%

DE BEERS CONSOLIDATED MINES LIMITED

DECLARATION OF DIVIDEND 50.10p ON THE DIFFERED SHARES

A dividend of 50.10p on the deferred shares of De Beers Consolidated Mines Limited is hereby declared for the year ended 31st December 1973. The dividend is payable to the holders of the deferred shares on 10th September 1974. The dividend is payable to the holders of the deferred shares on 10th September 1974.

Authorized Units, Insurance & Offshore Funds

Unit	Value	Unit	Value
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00
1000 Shares	1000.00	1000 Shares	1000.00

Business Notices

Company wishes to acquire...
The Managing Director, Box 1384 D, The Times.

Business Wanted

Company wishes to acquire...
The Managing Director, Box 1384 D, The Times.

Miscellaneous Financial

Company wishes to acquire...
The Managing Director, Box 1384 D, The Times.

Legal Notices

Company wishes to acquire...
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Notice of Meeting

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Businesses for Sale

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Domestic Situations

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London and Regional Market Prices

Financials under pressure

ACCOUNT DAYS: Dealings Began, Sept. 2. Dealings End, Sept. 13. § Contango Day, Sept. 16. Settlement Day, Sept. 24.
§ Forward bargains are permitted on two previous days.

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A cut above the rest!

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Freedom
Suitings

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[illegible]

Secretarial and General Appointments also on pages 4 and 24

GENERAL

SALES CORRESPONDENTS

£40 per week rising to £46 per week (incl. threshold payment)

Most firms employ men as Sales Correspondents. At Mars Limited however, we employ girls for these responsible jobs.

As the sales of our internationally based confectionery products are ever expanding, we are now recruiting to strengthen our team of 12 to work in our modern offices at Slough.

The position involves dealing by telephone and letter with customers and sales force. We believe customers are important people so we expect prompt action in handling their queries on matters like sales promotions, orders, deliveries and accounts.

Correspondents are of course senior members of our clerical staff and after training, work unsupervised. They must be capable of using their own initiative.

Educational requirements are a minimum of 4 academic "O" levels; some commercial experience together with the ability to communicate, would commend itself.

The preferred age range is 22-34.

If you are interested please apply to Sue Howarth, Personnel Officer, Mars Limited, Fairlie Road, Slough, Berkshire. Telephone Slough 23932, ext. 241 between 8.30 a.m.-4.45 p.m., Monday-Friday.

STAFF MANAGERESS

£2,800+

A large firm of solicitors with offices in Fleet Street require a woman experienced in Personnel to look after and recruit their secretarial staff.

Accountable to the Partnership Secretary, the person appointed will be responsible for the recruitment and induction of about 30 secretarial staff, their welfare and supervision. She will also be required to monitor secretarial salaries, maintain staff records and assist in the general administration of the secretarial function.

The ideal candidate will be in the age range 23-40 and will preferably have had some formal personnel training. (Membership of the IPM would be an advantage.)

Please write, mentioning any firms to whom your particulars may not be sent, to Miss M. T. Stone, Personnel Services Division of—

Spicer and Pegler & Co., Management Consultants, 6 New Street, Bishopsgate, London, EC2M 4UH.

Personnel Opportunity

ALDRERSHOT

Our client, a leading manufacturing and retailing company, has asked us to recruit a personnel officer to supervise the total personnel function of a staff of 800 at their Aldershot warehouse. She will head a department of 3 and be responsible for recruitment, administration, training and industrial relations.

The right applicant will have between 3 to 5 years' relevant experience and have sincere career motivation. Salary negotiable from £2,750 plus threshold.

Contact Jane Crosswhite, 493 8982, Career Girl Recruitment Consultancy, 13/14 New Bond St., W.1.

ARCHITECTS/DESIGNERS/

PLANNERS

WEST END

need enthusiastic, methodical, intelligent girl to manage, under technical supervision, an established and well-equipped Technical Library including the keeping of job records and job photographs.

Good salary, 4 weeks annual holiday. No experience necessary—but ability to type.

Please telephone 01-734 6161

MARKETING RESEARCH

ASSISTANT

£2,000-£2,500 p.a. immediately met not sound much for helping an economic industrial psychologist get his new department off the ground. We expect you will be happy to do this and your salary will be enough to make you a very good person. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department and will be in charge of the staff. We are looking for a person who is enthusiastic, methodical, intelligent and has a good knowledge of marketing research. You will be responsible for the day-to-day running of the department and will be in charge of the staff. We are looking for a person who is enthusiastic, methodical, intelligent and has a good knowledge of marketing research.

Ring Jackie Lewzey, 01-937 2866 quoting ref. JAL/533. RILEY MANAGEMENT SELECTION (Services) Ltd., Old Court House, Old Court Place, London W8 4PD.

ENTHUSIASTIC educated girl aged 17 in country Restaurant. Some mid-dep. Some cooking, live in or out. 2 days off. 2.50 p.w. 3124 mornings.

ENTHUSIASTIC and reliable girl to help in small exclusive shop. Some mid-dep. Some cooking, live in or out. 2 days off. 2.50 p.w. 3124 mornings.

ASSISTANT MATRON required immediately for Boarding House of 10 girls, aged 11-18. Some mid-dep. Some cooking, live in or out. 2 days off. 2.50 p.w. 3124 mornings.

YOUNG LADY, 18-25, to assist teachers in Girls' Independent School. Some mid-dep. Some cooking, live in or out. 2 days off. 2.50 p.w. 3124 mornings.

RESPONSIBLE FOR to assist Manager, 25 in Fulham Road Shop. Some mid-dep. Some cooking, live in or out. 2 days off. 2.50 p.w. 3124 mornings.

BOOKKEEPER/Clerk. City solicitors. Some mid-dep. Some cooking, live in or out. 2 days off. 2.50 p.w. 3124 mornings.

EXOTIC CAR DEALERS in North London. Some mid-dep. Some cooking, live in or out. 2 days off. 2.50 p.w. 3124 mornings.

RESTAURANT MANAGERESS for West End. Some mid-dep. Some cooking, live in or out. 2 days off. 2.50 p.w. 3124 mornings.

WANTED Cook for Directors' luncheon. Some mid-dep. Some cooking, live in or out. 2 days off. 2.50 p.w. 3124 mornings.

YOUNG LADY with nursing experience required for busy agency. Some mid-dep. Some cooking, live in or out. 2 days off. 2.50 p.w. 3124 mornings.

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